

LEAGUE CUP FINAL ISSUE

SHOOT!

28p

20th MARCH,
1982

LIVERPOOL
versus
TOTTENHAM

Wembley
opponents Kenny
Dalglish (left) and
Ossie Ardiles.

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Bob Paisley
Liverpool Manager

BOB'S record of achievement speaks for itself. Nine major prizes in less than eight years testifies to his remarkable management feats after succeeding the legendary Bill Shankly in 1974.

He guided Liverpool to the Championship in 1976, 1977, 1979 and 1980; three European Cup triumphs in 1977, 1978 and 1981; the UEFA Cup in 1976; and the League Cup in 1981.

Bob had a distinguished playing career at wing-half, first at amateur level with Bishop Auckland shortly before the War, and then with Liverpool, his only League club. Bob was a member of the Liverpool side which won the Championship in 1947.

LIVERPOOL

Bruce Grobbelaar (6)

Capable of producing a breathtaking save one moment, dropping a clanger the next. Greater concentration has improved his consistency of late. One of soccer's true characters, he has the capacity to turn on a Wembley dazzler.

Phil Neal (7)

Less potent than in his early Anfield days but one of the League's most ambitious full-backs on the charge. Vulnerable against a Morley-type winger. His experience will be invaluable at Wembley.

Alan Kennedy (7)

One of the League's most dangerous attacking full-backs with a fierce, accurate shot. Defensive weaknesses sometimes worry Bob Paisley but Alan's tenacity and will to win is admired by the manager.

TOTTENHAM

Ray Clemence (9)

Ray will not waste this opportunity to show he is the best goalkeeper in Britain — and Greenwood's best 'keeper. Safe, agile, consistent, brave, Spurs' defence has been stiffened since the ex-Liverpool man's arrival.

Steve Perryman (8)

A born leader, Steve's influence is crucial in Cup games. He tackles like a demon, but if Spurs take the game to Liverpool, just watch Steve's surging runs and shrewd eye for collecting one of Hoddle's pinpoint passes. His restless, never-say-die spirit could be vital.

Chris Hughton (8)

Pace is Chris' strength. He can miss a tackle and get in another before a forward has moved. Master of the face-saving tackle after Spurs' defence has been breached. Sometimes loses his rag under pressure but playing better than ever.



IT'S SPURS' BUT ONLY

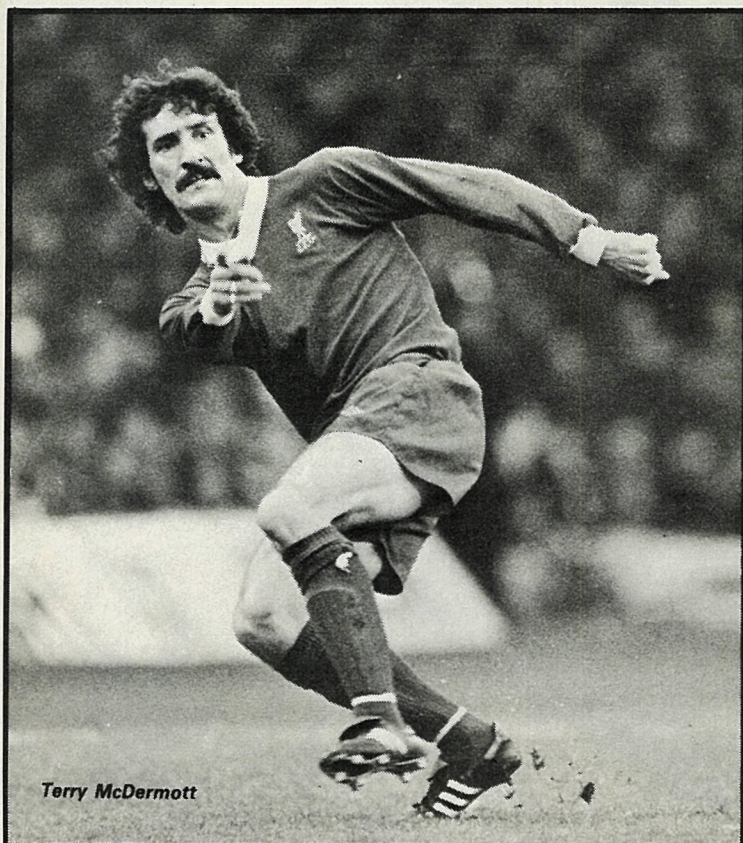
Steve Perryman, Tottenham's captain and only survivor of the two previous Final appearances, will raise the trophy aloft to continue the London club's remarkable record of never losing a Wembley Final.

That is SHOOT's confident forecast after assessing the strengths of the two teams, marking each player out of ten.

But the League Cup Final, boosted by £2,250,000 National Dairy Council sponsorship, is likely to be

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR to make it a hat-trick of League Cup Final wins, at Wembley, on Saturday, March 13.

Two Martin Chivers goals helped clinch the trophy against Aston Villa in 1971 and Spurs won it again two years later when a Ralph Coates winner destroyed Norwich.



Terry McDermott



Chris Hughton



Mark Lawrenson



Paul Miller

Alan Hansen (9)

Probably the coolest centre-half in the First Division. Immaculate in appearance and style. Reads the game superbly for interceptions or tackles. Strong in the air. His long, probing passes set-up many Liverpool attacks.

Mark Lawrenson (8)

Mark has forged an outstanding partnership with Hansen since moving to the middle of defence, his best position. Pace, positional sense, combative spirit and eye for an opening justify Paisley's belief in the ex-Brighton player. Gains confidence with every match.

Terry McDermott (8)

If Terry performs, Liverpool play well. One can't work without the other. Underrated at England level, his probings, intelligent distribution, and eye for crucial goals render him a dangerous midfield man. Spurs will need to mark him tightly.

Paul Miller (8)

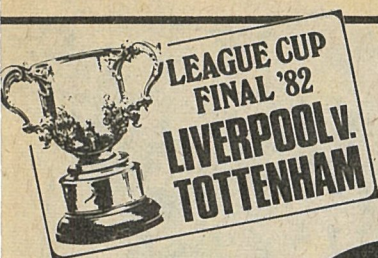
'Killer' Miller is the powerhouse of Spurs' defence. His tank-like tackles sometimes upset referees, but who can argue with his effectiveness? He will mount strong resistance to Rush's chances of scoring at Wembley.

Paul Price (7)

Fully deserves Burkinshaw's confidence. Solid and dependable, this Welsh international has slotted smoothly into Spurs' formidable defence. Will not be overawed by Wembley's frenzied atmosphere.

Oswaldo Ardiles (9)

Technically the best equipped player at Wembley. His strength to ride tackles, pace to get away from defenders and intelligence to shatter a defence will make Ossie a marked man on his last appearance for Spurs before the World Cup.



CUP- JUST!



desperately close, with only three points separating the two teams. Tottenham score 89 points, with Liverpool, dramatically better now than before Christmas, getting 86.

One goal will probably divide the two teams if League Cup Final history is taken into consideration. Defences could hold the key, and in that department Spurs are irresistible.

They haven't conceded a goal in reaching Wembley, a marginally better performance than Liverpool, League Cup Final winners in 1981, who have let in four.

But who would gamble his money on this one?

Sammy Lee (7)

No longer the baby of the side after two seasons of solid achievement. Tipped for England honours, Sammy illustrates the Anfield spirit. Full of running, a tiger in the tackle, he will feature heavily in most Liverpool attacks. Shoulders more responsibility this season.

Graeme Souness (9)

Widely recognised as the best midfield player in the country. He has everything — power in the tackle, brain with a homing device to send passes to feet, and an eye for scoring long-range goals through the narrowest gaps.

Ronnie Whelan (8)

One of the most exciting prospects to emerge this season. This skinny Irishman with pace and a burning pride in playing for Liverpool has been largely responsible for the Reds revival. Spurs should beware of his razor thrusts from midfield.

Ian Rush (9)

One of the League's most lethal strikers. He flies like a dagger to the heart of defences, scoring goals with the frequency Dalglish enjoyed in past seasons. Has lost his uncertainty in the box and just needs a sniff to take advantage of error.



Sammy Lee

Glenn Hoddle (9)

Glenn's big chance to leave Greenwood in no doubt that he's the man for Spain. Devastating passing and long range shooting could pose problems. With Ardiles' ability to go past players, Glenn would walk into England's team. Wembley's vast acres will suit his style.

Ricardo Villa (8)

Will he turn on another Wembley wonder show? Loves the big occasion and shows more consistency this season. Hardest man to rob in the League with a blistering shot. He will not waste an opportunity to show his skills.

Tony Galvin (8)

Tony's powerful surges down the left could upset Neal's composure. Well supplied by Hoddle and Ardiles, he runs as straight as an arrow if he spots an opening. Loves to get to the bye-line and set-up openings for strikers.

Steve Archibald (7)

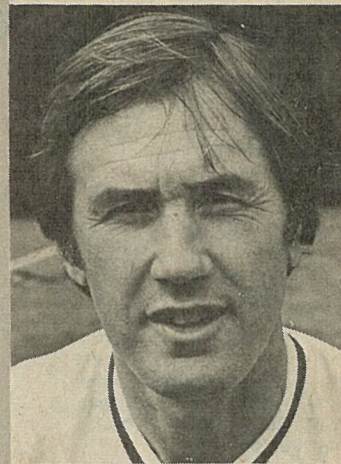
Great chance to show critics he was not a one-season wonder. Injury has blunted the Scot's sharpness, but no striker in Britain has more fire or determination than this man at the moment. Will not waste the chance to enhance his World Cup claims.

Keith Burkinshaw Tottenham Manager

KEITH has restored Spurs to the levels Bill Nicholson demanded of his famous Double winning side 20 years ago. Appointed in July, 1976, he guided them into the First Division in 1978 and saw his efforts rewarded last season when Spurs won the F.A. Cup for the sixth time.

It is not widely known that Keith was a Liverpool player between 1954-58 before continuing his career with Workington over the next seven years. He hung up his boots after three years at Scunthorpe.

But it is in the coaching-management sphere that he has excelled. He coached Newcastle to the F.A. Cup Final in 1974 before moving to Spurs, where he has kept up the good work.



Kenny Dalglish (8)

Back to his best after an indifferent start. Enjoys supporting Rush and still takes his chances. His experience will be invaluable at Wembley. Hard to dispossess, he will punish Spurs if they give him an inch of space.

Garth Crooks (8)

Never scores enough goals to satisfy those who predicted an England future. But loves his football and makes goals as well as scores them. Cool under pressure in the box with close control, pace and snap-shot.

LIKELY SUBS

David Johnson

Vastly experienced, he is the perfect substitute if things are going badly. Pace, commitment, and an eye for an opening. David is unlucky not to play regularly.

Mike Hazard

Scorer of vital goals. Burkinshaw will have no fears about using this fiery, goalscoring youngster if things are going wrong. One for the future.



Glenn Hoddle

● Sensational boost to crisis-hit soccer. Read Shoot View page 15.

The Captains... The Captains... The Captains... The Captains...

THE League Cup Final this year has all the makings of a classic. Never before have two more finely balanced teams met for the climax to the competition.

The confrontation in midfield should be fascinating.

Tottenham boast the silky smooth skills of Glenn Hoddle, Ossie Ardiles and Ricky Villa. Tony Galvin provides an important, determined thrust on the left side.

Liverpool offer the tenacious Sammy Lee. Terry McDermott, whose dangerous running and clinical finishing ability is second to none. Ronnie Whelan has deceptive pace.

But in new skipper Graeme Souness Liverpool may just hold the trump card.

The sophisticated Scot is arguably the most complete midfielder player in the game today.

He combines a tigerish determination with delightful skills and he packs a powerful drive in either foot that anybody would be proud of.

In a word, Souness is 'complete'.

That is the opinion of Sammy Lee, who believes Souness to be the best in Europe.

"Graeme has got the lot," says Lee. "He could be a very influential figure for us at Wembley again."

"On his day, without doubt, he's the best. He is important to us in

that he wins so much possession in vital areas. But you don't need me to confirm that he's not just a ballwinner.

"He has an ability to quickly see a chance to create an opening and then execute his intentions with comparative ease. He plays with a confident arrogance that some people don't like. But that's his style."

If Souness has a weakness it is his lack of pace, but Lee argues that the Scot is very rarely exposed.

"For a start, he's not slow," snaps Lee. "He has a deceptive turn of speed. But he rarely needs



SOUNESS — THE BEST IN EUROPE

Graeme hit one of the best hat-tricks (his third is pictured above) I've ever seen against CSKA Sofia at Anfield."

Lee agrees that the Final promises a lot, but he fears that on the day Tottenham and Liverpool may just cancel each other out.

"I hope that doesn't happen," he says. "On current form the two best footballing sides in the country are at Wembley and I would like to see the players on both sides do themselves justice. But there is a danger that might not happen. That would be a tragedy."

with stunning power in front of goal, Souness does not score enough goals.

Lee believes that is because he often hits a ball too cleanly.

"Ask any professional and they'll know what I mean," he says.

"It is possible to hit a ball too well and see a goalkeeper make a good save as a result. Often the shot that's not hit so well is the one that finds its way into the net."

"The best night he had was in the European Cup, at the Quarter-Final stage last year.

to use it because he is such a good reader of a game.

"He can see dangerous situations developing and be in the right place to snuff out the threat before it's too late."

"He is unique in that he offers such welcome support to our defence, playing just in front of the back-four, but the same can be said at the other end where he creates."

Despite his ability to strike a ball



**LEAGUE CUP
FINAL '82
LIVERPOOL V.
TOTTENHAM**



The 'keepers... The 'keepers... The 'keepers... The 'keepers...

BRUCE Grobbelaar hasn't faced a Wembley-sized crowd for almost a year — and that was in the heart of Africa.

The Rhodesia-born goalkeeper who goes to Wembley with Liverpool for the League Cup Final against Tottenham played in front of 80,000 partisan fans for his country, Zimbabwe, in a World Cup Qualifying match against Cameroon in Yaounde.

"I'm hoping the

Wembley — to watch the first match of the F.A. Cup Final between Spurs and Manchester City.

"I never dreamed I would be back there playing in a Final less than a year later," he says.

Grobbelaar has had to fight not only the critics who condemned him for some mediocre displays, but also the factor he calls "the ghost of Ray Clemence."

He explains: "It was inevitable people would make comparisons between Ray and myself."

"I reckon it could take me five years to make people forget

suppose I can only accept that.

"I expect Wembley to provide me with one hell of a boost. The atmosphere and excitement should stir up any player — I felt it just sitting in the stands last year at the Cup Final."

"Facing Clemence may bring back some of the comparisons but that is inevitable."

"He had his problems, the same as I did, when he first went to Tottenham. But recently, he has proved what a great goalkeeper he still is."

And what does Grobbelaar think about his own form this season

'FIVE YEARS BEFORE FANS FORGET RAY'

outcome of this Wembley match will be better than that one," grins Grobbelaar. "We lost 2-0 in Yaounde and failed to qualify for the Finals."

"I don't think there will be too many comparisons between that match and this League Cup Final. The pitch in Cameroon was like Blackpool Sands — Wembley ought to be a bit better than that!"

A little less than a year ago, Grobbelaar, still a player with the North American League team Vancouver Whitecaps, went to

Clemence. He was a folk hero here, and I don't blame them for remembering him. But I don't mind admitting that the serious criticism worried me earlier in the season.

"My aim has to be to make people look to the future and give me a chance. It's no good everyone looking back all the time."

Have the fans been too harsh in their criticisms? "The majority of people have been fair, but still there are some who give me stick all the time," says Grobbelaar. "I

Bruce Grobbelaar

with the European Champions? "It hasn't been as good as I would have liked," he says. "I am going to have to work a lot harder. I know I can play very much better so it is up to me to work my way towards peak form."

"The people at the club have helped me but now it is up to me personally. The boss has been very good to me and now I want to repay his faith in me. Playing well at Wembley might be the ideal time to show what I am capable of."

The Captains... The Captains... The Captains... The Captains... The Captains...



TOTTENHAM and Liverpool, the two giants of the English season, clash head-on in the League Cup Final at Wembley with Spurs skipper Steve Perryman insisting: "We are capable of beating anyone, including Liverpool."

"But it will be so tight that one mistake could decide the match."

Cautious Perryman believes Spurs are good enough to win.

"You can never be blasé about facing Liverpool," he says. "They are a threat wherever and whenever you meet them."

"We are very confident of our ability but we are also realistic enough to know that Liverpool will be very hard to beat."

"The only thing we can say is that it will be a very competitive game with a lot of skill contained within it."

"It is going to be hard for either side to win. There are so many players with so much skill on both sides that it will be hard for any opponent to shut down the talented players."

"There is skill and ability in abundance throughout both teams and I believe it will be a marvellous Final, a very entertaining game. But it's going to be so close."

Single goal victories over WBA in the League Cup Semi-Final, Fulham in the Fourth Round, Leeds and Aston Villa in the F.A. Cup earlier rounds and Dundalk in the Cup Winners' Cup second leg,

proved the point.

"If critics believe Spurs were lucky to win those particular games, they should examine Liverpool's record over recent

gone halfway towards reaching our target of fulfilling that potential."

"There is still work to be done, promise to be fulfilled."

"We try to get the same results, do things in a similarly professional way as Liverpool."

"Of course, the two sides employ totally different styles but we use Liverpool's professionalism as something of a yardstick. Tell me a club which doesn't — although few can rival it."

The Final at Wembley provides another opportunity for Perryman to see at close hand the development of Graeme Souness, once a problem boy at Tottenham, now the captain of the European Champions.

'Favour'

Perryman says: "Graeme needed a change of club and the influence of Jack Charlton at Middlesbrough. That move did him a great favour. He is a player I admire very much, because he plays the game my type of way."

"I am not in the least surprised he has made it to the top."

Tottenham's ability to raise their play for the big occasion could swing the Final their way. "Even when we were an in and out side, we always raised ourselves for certain games. We have always been able to do that," adds Perryman.

'We like to do things the Liverpool way'

Steve Perryman

years. They have tended to do much the same in critical matches, even when opponents have enjoyed more than their share of the game."

Perryman adds: "Last year, people said we were potentially a good side and I believe we have

The 'keepers... The 'keepers... The 'keepers... The 'keepers... The 'keepers... The

EVERY player looks forward to playing against his old club. But I little suspected that my first outing against Liverpool would be eight months after leaving Anfield and in the League Cup Final at Wembley.

A situation even a scriptwriter for "Roy of the Rovers" would hesitate to write into a story, it's so far-fetched.

Last season I helped Liverpool to their first-ever League Cup win, and now I'm in the team out to stop them equalling Nottingham Forest with two successive triumphs.

There are so many angles to this Final from my personal standpoint I'm trying not to think of them. The way some people talk you'd think it was a question of Ray Clemence versus Liverpool!

One of the fascinating aspects of this Final is the contrast in styles between the two teams, something unusual in these days when football has become somewhat stereotyped.

Spurs are tighter at the back since I joined them, giving away less goals than last season — but in midfield and attack are far less rigidly organised, allowing the players with exceptional talent, such as Glenn Hoddle, Garth Crooks and Ossie Ardiles, the freedom to "do their own thing" when the opportunity arises.

We like to think that not only have we the capacity to win things — currently we're competing for

'Bruce has learnt the hard way'

Ray Clemence

glory on quite a few fronts — we give the crowds entertainment and value for money.

Whereas Spurs are unpredictable, Liverpool's style of play, tried and trusted over years of high success and pressure, remains the same.

They attack as a unit and defend as a unit.

The players change, but the formula doesn't.

Interest

One player I've watched with great interest is Bruce Grobbelaar, brought in to take over my place in the Liverpool goal.

When first signed, Bruce was quoted as saying he didn't want to spend too much time in Liverpool's reserves, but later admitted he wished I'd stayed around a bit longer to give him a more gradual introduction into first team football.

Bruce's tremendous natural ability — razor-sharp reactions, a safe pair of hands, great courage — were not enough.

He has learnt the hard way that a

Liverpool 'keeper spends a lot of his time out of action. When he first arrived, he wanted to be involved all the time.

Unfortunately, he often tried to help out his defenders when they didn't need it and this created confusion.

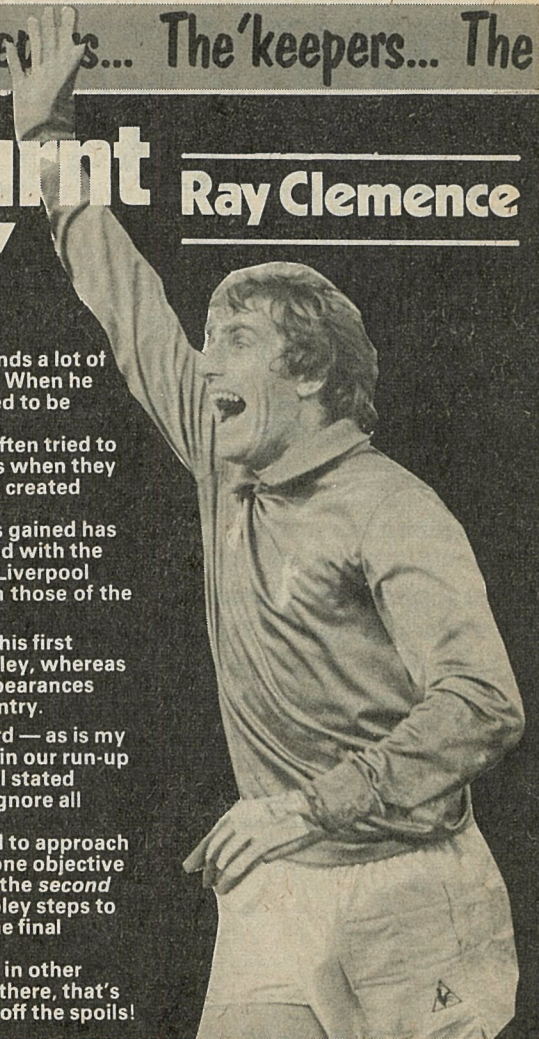
The experience he's gained has enabled Bruce to blend with the back-four to form a Liverpool defence on a par with those of the recent past.

For Bruce it will be his first appearance at Wembley, whereas I've made over 30 appearances here for club and country.

This may be a record — as is my not conceding a goal in our run-up to this Final — but as I stated earlier, I'm trying to ignore all personal sidelights.

I'm just determined to approach this game with only one objective — to be a member of the second team up those Wembley steps to the Royal box after the final whistle!

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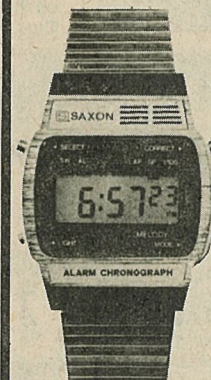
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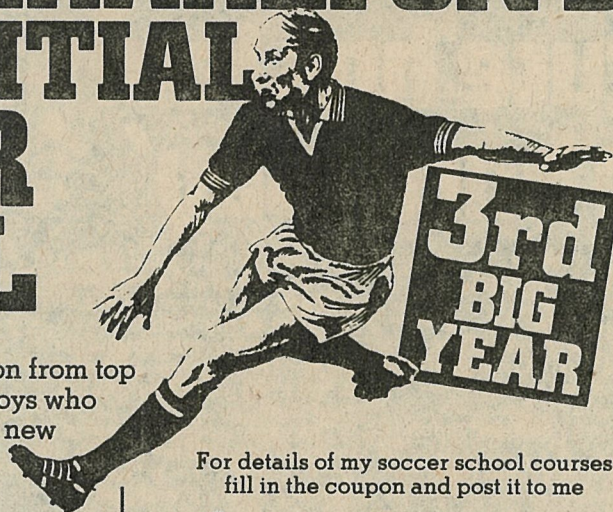
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LEAGUE CUP FINAL '82 LIVERPOOL v. TOTTENHAM

THOMPSON: There are so many interesting talking points about this Final, Steve. It's the most fascinating ever in my opinion. A real contrast in styles.

ARCHIBALD: Yes, Phil. Liverpool have become the most successful trophy-hunters in Britain through playing to a strict, traditional pattern. They put the accent on keeping possession of the ball and knocking it around with quick, short passes. Cutting down the risks. Spurs, on the other hand, have the flair to be much more adventurous.

THOMPSON: I disagree. Granted, you play more long balls out of defence and can look more spectacular. But I believe there's greater flexibility in our set-up. Liverpool's back-four are not only the best goal stoppers in the business, they can also score them. Centre-back Alan Hansen, for instance, has probably collected more goals than your entire defence.

ARCHIBALD: But don't forget our back-four haven't conceded a single goal in the competition so far, which is a record. A lot of the credit must go to your former team-mate, Ray Clemence, who's got his men very well-organised. They may not score many goals, but they can supply the bullets for the lads in midfield and up-front to fire...

THOMPSON: It's in those departments where your real dangermen operate. Glenn Hoddle, a brilliant talent, can hit a 50-yard pass so accurately it would land on a sixpence. And he can thump a ball so hard it makes your eyes water. The two Argentinians are special, too. Ossie Ardiles can be slippery as an eel, and his big mate Ricky Villa is always likely to produce something unexpected — like scoring an incredible goal as he did in the F.A. Cup Final replay. The young coloured lad, Garth Crooks, is like lightning in the penalty box — just like you, Steve. You both combine to make a really hard-to-handle strike force.

ARCHIBALD: Thanks for the compliment, Phil. But it's going to be hard getting a kick against your quick-tackling defence, though their tendency to go forward in attack could allow us to hit on the break. Obviously the main threats to Ray Clem's goal will come from front runners Kenny Dalglish and Ian Rush, both in tremendous form at the moment.

THOMPSON: Ian's a relative newcomer to the Liverpool team. But there's no fear that either he or the other new faces, Ronnie Whelan and Bruce Grobbelaar, will suffer from nerves. The confidence of the older hands will rub off on them.

ARCHIBALD: Even so, Phil, I'm convinced that through having

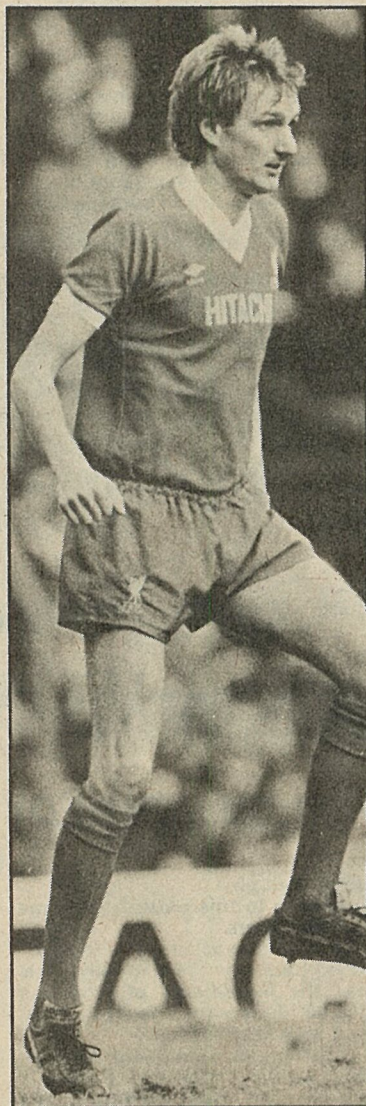
CROSSTALK

SHOOT columnists Phil Thompson of Liverpool and Spurs' Steve Archibald have been sidelined through injury this season. While Steve has regained his first team spot, and looks certain to play at Wembley, Phil is still hoping for a recall to play in the season's first major event...

'WE'RE MORE ADVENTUROUS'

more recent experience of playing for our club at Wembley — in the Charity Shield game and the F.A. Cup Final and replay — we'll be the more composed team and will settle down first.

THOMPSON: In the early stages, it'll certainly be a test of temperament. I suppose both teams are



— Steve
Archibald
SPURS

fortunate in having such level-headed managers to guide them. Bob Paisley and Keith Burkinshaw are very much alike.

ARCHIBALD: They both took a lot of stick at the start of the season when the teams struggled. But they refused to panic, and being in this Final is a tribute to them both.

THOMPSON: Real professionals! Bob is making no special plans for the Final. We're just going through our normal training routine —

'A REAL CONTRAST IN STYLES'

— Phil
Thompson
LIVERPOOL

plenty of sprinting, limbering up exercises, and seven-a-sides. We won't be coming down to our hotel — one of the Holiday Inns around London — until Thursday morning. Otherwise there's the risk of getting bored and over-eating.

ARCHIBALD: We're due to arrive some time on Wednesday at the Hertfordshire hotel we used before last year's F.A. Cup Final. Our training will be similar to yours, and then we'll play table tennis, pool and cards to keep ourselves occupied. After the Final, win or lose, we'll have dinner at a London hotel with our wives and friends.

THOMPSON: For us, whatever the outcome, we'll return immediately to Liverpool to prepare for our trip to Bulgaria for the European Cup second-leg game with C.S.K.A. But it would be nice to take the League Cup back to Anfield and equal Nottingham Forest's record of successive wins. As I said at the start, this Final has all the signs of being a real crowd-pleaser. Full of thrills, but with few goals. 2-1 to us. I've got my fingers crossed I'm picked to play.

ARCHIBALD: I hope to be lining up against you, Phil. And to be the first to commiserate with you after we've won!





LEAGUE CUP FINAL '82 LIVERPOOL v TOTTENHAM

WHEN Argentinian World Cup ace Ossie Ardiles signed for Spurs his big ambition was to play at Wembley.

Now the little South American is preparing for his fourth game there in ten months!

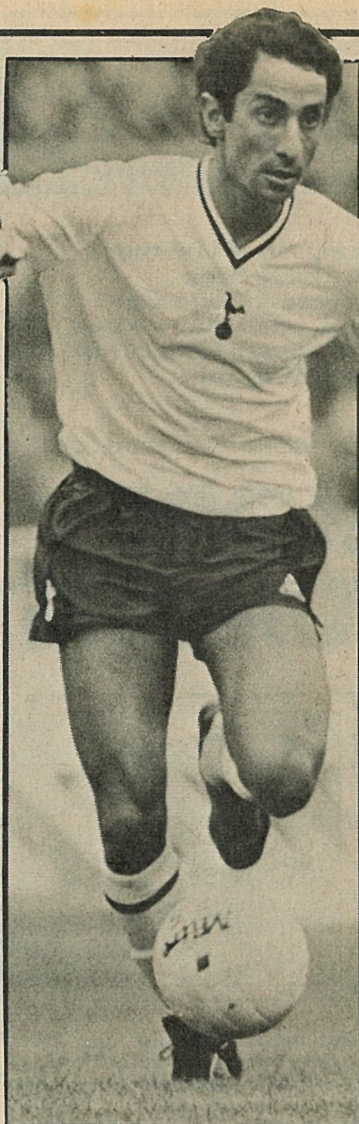
"I knew Tottenham had the players to do well and maybe help me fulfil my dream, but I never imagined I would be such a frequent visitor to Wembley," he explains.

At the time of going to press, Spurs' result against Chelsea in the F.A. Cup Quarter-Final was unknown. So they could still be in the running to make their fifth appearance at the famous Stadium.

Certain

But this Saturday's League Cup Final against Liverpool is certain to be Ossie Ardiles' only journey to Wembley this season. For he leaves to join the Argentine World Cup squad preparing for the World Cup Finals in early April.

Ardiles admits: "Playing for your country is what everyone wants and I am proud to be selected. But I am a little disappointed I shall not be able to help Tottenham in the last six weeks of the season, especially if they go to Wembley for the



F.A. Cup Final.

"I hope Spain will provide me with another Cup Final this year to make up for missing the F.A. Cup Final. That would be nice."

Ardiles believes that Spurs' recent experience of Wembley could help them enormously against Liverpool.

OSSIE AIMS TO GO IN STYLE

"Obviously Wembley is a very special place and a special pitch. The pitch suits our style because we like to play open football all over the field, and a big ground helps us to do that."

"The experience of playing there so many times recently will help us. I was very nervous before my first appearance, and also a little nervous before the Charity Shield. But once the game starts, you lose your nerves. The players should not be quite so nervous this time."

"It will be a very difficult match for us. Although I fancy Tottenham against any team in England at the moment, we must be careful about Liverpool. They are a good side and we all respect them."

"But we are very confident in our own ability and perhaps that is

our greatest asset. We shall talk about the other team but not how they will play or how we can keep them subdued. We feel it is up to us, as to how we perform."

"The other team will only play as we let them. If we hit top form we can win."

Wembley Finals, especially those which receive a great deal of pre-match publicity, have a tendency to disappoint.

Ardiles isn't afraid that this potential classic against the European Champions could follow a similar pattern.

"I think it could be a great match. If we both play to our best form, it will be very close. But I still

fancy us.

"It is good for atmosphere when a Northern team plays a London team — we saw that in the F.A. Cup Final against Manchester City."

"This season, both teams have been very successful, and have played good football. These are two very big teams, there is much prestige and I think it will be a very nice Final."

Whatever the outcome of this season's Finals, whatever the destiny of the trophies, Ardiles believes Tottenham will continue to dispute the Cups and Championships.

"There are some very good young players coming along at Tottenham," he says. "The youngsters have a lot of ability and I am sure they will become very good players for the future."

ALAN Kennedy's hopes of adding to his League Championship, European Cup and League Cup honours seemed shattered when the 1981-82 Football League season kicked-off.

The man who scored Liverpool's only and winning goal in the 1981 European Cup Final in Paris against Real Madrid last May found himself on the outside.

"I was very disappointed," says the England 'B' international. "As I said before in SHOOT, I did not expect to be in just because of the



Kennedy (right) blasts the only goal in last season's European Cup Final, but it still wasn't enough to guarantee him a place in the Liverpool side this season.

'Rush and Dalglish will clinch it'

winner in Paris, but thought Mr Paisley would stick by the European Cup-winning side.

"Instead, I was on the sidelines. Although Mark Lawrenson is a superb player, I still regarded myself as the best number three in the club."

Then former captain Phil Thompson was injured in a League Cup tie at Barnsley. Kennedy returned and the team has played so well the England defender has been unable to regain his place.

"Apart from a couple of set-backs, against Chelsea in the F.A. Cup and Swansea in the League,

we have done well and have got ourselves back in the Championship race," says Kennedy.

And that run included knocking Ipswich Town out of the League Cup Semi-Finals on a 4-2 aggregate.

"We outplayed Ipswich at Portman Road, where we won 2-0. When we went ahead 2-0 in the return at Anfield, it was a mere formality that we were Wembley-bound for the second consecutive season."

"Although Bobby Robson's men fought back to draw 2-2 we had

—ALAN KENNEDY

done enough."

And so to this Saturday's game against Spurs.

"What a cracker in prospect," says Kennedy. "Potentially, this has the ingredients of providing 100,000 fans with a feast of good and attacking football."

"Tottenham's midfield of Hoddle, Ardiles, Villa and Galvin is possibly the most exciting in the Football League at the moment.

"But then we have two lethal finishers in Ian Rush and Kenny Dalglish and remember we don't concede many goals either."

Kennedy is also hoping to keep his recent run of Cup Final goals going. He scored in last season's 1-1 draw at Wembley against West Ham in the League Cup Final and then followed that by scoring the winner against Real Madrid.

"It was a great couple of months for me," remembers Kennedy. "Particularly as we eventually won both Cups. With luck I hope to complete a memorable hat-trick."

£750 TO BE WON IN SHOOT'S SENSATIONAL

THIS week and for the next two weeks we present our own version of the ever popular "Spot the Ball" competition. SHOOT's is different in that there is no entry fee yet we are offering bumper cash prizes totalling £750 each week! First prize of £250, three second prizes of £100 and 20 third prizes of £10.

Can you work out where the ball is? Then here's all you have to do.

HOW TO ENTER

Simply place a cross (X) neatly in ink to mark the centre of where you consider the ball to be. Indeed, to give you more chances to try for a prize, you can make up to FIVE crosses providing they do not overlap.

Complete the coupon with your own full name and address, and age if under 18, and post in a sealed envelope to: SHOOT SPOT THE BALL No. 1, LAVINGTON HOUSE, 25 LAVINGTON STREET, LONDON SE1 0PF, to arrive not later than Monday, 29th March, 1982, the closing date.

RULES

There is no entry fee but each attempt must be on a proper entry coupon cut from SHOOT, and must bear the entrant's own name and address.

All accepted entries will be examined, and the judges will award the 1st prize to the entrant they consider has shown the greatest skill and judgment: i.e. who has marked a cross the centre of which most accurately shows the centre of where the ball would most logically be, all circumstances considered. Remaining prizes will be awarded for next best attempt in order of merit. In the event of a tie for any prize(s), the prize(s) will be shared among those tying, and no entrant may win more than one share.

Entries arriving after the closing date will not be considered, and no responsibility can be accepted for any entries lost, delayed or damaged in the post or elsewhere. Any entries received incomplete, illegible, with more than five crosses marked, mutilated or altered, or in any other way not complying exactly with the instructions and rules will be disqualified.

Decisions of the judges, and of the Editor in all other matters affecting the competition, will be final. No correspondence will be entered into. Entry implies acceptance of the rules as final and legally binding.

The competition is open to all readers resident in Great Britain, Northern Ireland, Eire, the Channel Isles and Isle of Man other than employees (and their families) of IPC Magazines Ltd., or the printers of SHOOT.

The winners will be notified, and the result will be published later in SHOOT.

Another £750 in prize money to be won next week!

SPOT THE BALL COMPETITION

ENTRY COUPON



SHOOT 'SPOT THE BALL' COMPETITION No. 1

The two teams and date of match:
Charlton v Crystal Palace, Feb 6th
Final Score: 2-1
Weather conditions: Cold and dry
State of ground: Soft.

NAME.....
(Mr/Mrs/Miss)
ADDRESS

In entering this competition, I agree to abide by the rules and to accept the judges' decisions and the published result as final and legally binding.

Age if under 18 years

PLEASE CUT NEATLY ALONG THIS LINE

ALL STAR MATCH~WINNERS

ONLY one goal will separate the two teams on Saturday if recent history is anything to go by.

For since the League Cup Final moved to Wembley in 1967, 13 of the 15 ties have been decided by the narrowest of margins.

And not since Tottenham beat Aston Villa 2-0 back in 1971 has there been a more emphatic margin of victory.

Since then, both of Saturday's Finalists have won the League Cup: Liverpool, of course, last season and Spurs in 1973.

Of the Liverpool team which won the Cup last season, there will probably be seven men on duty again at Wembley this Saturday.

Likely starter

But of the team which lost to Nottingham Forest in the Final four years ago, only three — Kenny Dalglish, Phil Neal and Terry McDermott — are likely to start at Wembley.

And going back to 1973, when Spurs beat Norwich 1-0, there is just one survivor in today's line-up — skipper Steve Perryman.

Looking at the list of men whose goals have clinched League Cup Final victory in the last ten Finals makes pretty impressive reading.

In fact, the six most recent match-winners have all been full international players.

In 1976 it was Manchester City's Dennis Tueart who did the job with his

overhead kick against Newcastle.

A year later, that long-running saga between Aston Villa and Everton was finally resolved in extra-time of the second replay by Villa's Brian Little.

The 1978 Final was again settled in a replay. This time the goal was scored from the penalty-spot by Nottingham Forest's John Robertson against Liverpool.

Forest became the only club to retain the trophy when, in 1979, they beat Southampton 3-2.

Garry Birtles was Forest's two-goal hero that day, but it was England striker Tony Woodcock who scored that all-important third.

But in 1980 Forest's luck finally ran out when the trophy was ripped from their grasp by underdogs Wolves.

LEAGUE CUP FINALS SINCE 1967

Year	Result
1967	QPR 3 WBA 2
1968	Leeds 1 Arsenal 0
1969	Swindon 3 Arsenal 1
1970	Manchester City 2 WBA 1
1971	Spurs 2 Aston Villa 0
1972	Stoke 2 Chelsea 1
1973	Spurs 1 Norwich 0
1974	Wolves 2 Manchester City 1
1975	Aston Villa 1 Norwich 0
1976	Manchester City 2 Newcastle 1
1977	Aston Villa 3 Everton 2 (2nd replay at Old Trafford)
1978	Nottm. Forest 1 Liverpool 0 (replay at Old Trafford)
1979	Nottm. Forest 3 Southampton 2
1980	Wolves 1 Nottm. Forest 0
1981	Liverpool 2 West Ham 1 (replay at Villa Park)

Scotland star Andy Gray was the man who was gifted the only goal of the game that day.

Which brings us to last season's Final, won, of course, by Liverpool.

Again they were taken to a replay, this time by Second Division West Ham. But on this occasion they ended up winners thanks to Alan Hansen's winner at Villa Park.

Now, Liverpool are aiming to emulate Forest's achievement by winning the League Cup Final for the second year in succession.

Can they succeed in that aim? Or will Spurs repeat their Wembley triumph of ten months ago?

And who will be the man whose goal finally takes possession of the coveted trophy for his club?

The list below shows that recent League Cup Finals have all been won by a big-name star.

Match winner
Mark Lazarus
Terry Cooper

Glyn Pardoe

George Eastham
Ralph Coates
John Richards
Ray Graydon
Dennis Tueart
Brian Little
John Robertson
Tony Woodcock
Andy Gray
Alan Hansen

HOW THEY GOT THERE

LIVERPOOL

Second Round
first-leg Exeter (h) 5-0 (Rush 2, McDermott, Dalglish, Whelan)
second-leg Exeter (a) 6-0 (Rush 2, Dalglish, Neal, Sheedy, Marker (og))
Third Round Middlesbrough (h) 4-1 (Sheedy, Rush, Johnson 2)

Fourth Round Arsenal (a) 0-0
Replay Arsenal (h) 3-0 (Johnson, McDermott pen, Dalglish)

Fifth Round Barnsley (h) 0-0
Replay Barnsley (a) 3-1 (Souness, Johnson, Dalglish)

Semi-Final
first-leg Ipswich (a) 2-0 (McDermott, Rush)
second-leg Ipswich (h) 2-2 (Rush, Dalglish)

TOTTENHAM

Second Round
first-leg Man Utd (h) 1-0 (Archibald)
second-leg Man Utd (a) 1-0 (Hazard)
Third Round Wrexham (h) 2-0 (Huddle, Hughton)

Fourth Round Fulham (h) 1-0 (Hazard)

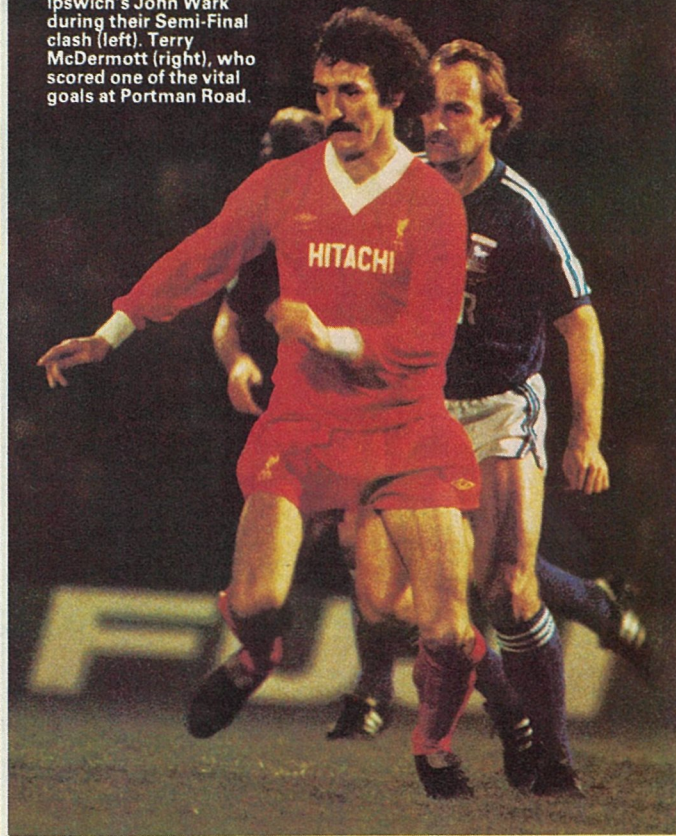
Fifth Round Nottm For (h) 1-0 (Ardiles)

Semi-Final
first-leg W.B.A. (a) 0-0
second-leg W.B.A. (h) 1-0 (Hazard)



LIVERPOOL

Liverpool full-back Phil Neal clears from Ipswich's John Wark during their Semi-Final clash (left). Terry McDermott (right), who scored one of the vital goals at Portman Road.



Super Focus

Ronnie Whelan

Liverpool

FULL NAME: Ronnie Whelan
BIRTHPLACE: Dublin
BIRTHDATE: September 25, 1961
HEIGHT: 5ft 10ins
WEIGHT: 10st 7lbs
MARRIED: No
CAR: Don't have one
PREVIOUS CLUBS: Home Farm
JOB OR TRADE BEFORE TURNING PRO: Went into the game on leaving school
NICKNAME: 'Dusty'
FAVOURITE NEWSPAPERS: Mirror and Star
FAVOURITE PLAYER: Bryan Robson (Manchester United)
A PLAYER FOR THE FUTURE: Steve Nicol (Liverpool)
FAVOURITE OTHER TEAM: Manchester United
FOOTBALL HERO OF CHILDHOOD: Georgie Best
FAVOURITE OTHER SPORTS: Golf and snooker
OTHER SPORTS PERSON YOU MOST ADMIRE: Severiano Ballesteros
YOUR BEST EVER ALL TIME XI: Banks, Carlos Alberto, Beckenbauer, J. Charlton, Cooper, Maradona, Kempes, Cruyff, Best, Law, Dalglish
MOST MEMORABLE MATCH: Eire v France, October '81 in Dublin. It was my first full cap
BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT: Eire not qualifying for the World Cup Finals.
FRIENDLIEST AWAY FANS: Swansea
BEST STADIUM PLAYED IN: Ibrox
FAVOURITE FOOD AND DRINK: Steak and chips, tea and milk
MISCELLANEOUS LIKES . . . DISLIKES: Winning . . . Smoking and bad mannered people
FAVOURITE SINGERS: Queen, The Beatles
FAVOURITE ACTOR . . . ACTRESS: Paul Newman and Sophia Loren
FAVOURITE HOLIDAY RESORT: Majorca
BEST FILM SEEN RECENTLY: 'Midnight Express'
FAVOURITE TV SHOW: The Professionals
FAVOURITE ACTIVITY ON DAY OFF: Resting
BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON CAREER: My dad and all the Liverpool staff
SUPERSTITIONS: Many
INTERNATIONAL HONOURS: Eire Youth, Under-21 and full international caps
PERSONAL AMBITION: To be happy
IF NOT A PLAYER, WHAT JOB WOULD YOU DO? No idea
CAREER AFTER PLAYING: Haven't thought about it
WHICH PERSON IN THE WORLD WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO MEET? The Pope



Tough-tackling defender Mark Lawrenson closes in on Ipswich dangerman Eric Gates.

EARN THEIR SPURS

Tottenham's Chris Hughton confronts WBA striker Cyrille Regis during the second leg of their Semi-Final meeting at White Hart Lane (right). Hot shot Garth Crooks is just off target in the same match (below).



**Super
Focus**

Tony Galvin *Spurs*

FULL NAME: Anthony Galvin

BIRTHPLACE: Huddersfield

BIRTHDATE: July 12, 1956

HEIGHT: 5ft 11ins

WEIGHT: 12st 12lbs

MARRIED: Yes, to Julie

CHILDREN: None yet

CAR: Triumph Acclaim

PREVIOUS CLUB: Goole Town

JOB OR TRADE BEFORE TURNING

PRO: Student teacher

NICKNAME: 'T G'

FAVOURITE NEWSPAPER: Guardian

FAVOURITE PLAYER: Tommy

Hutchison

A PLAYER FOR THE FUTURE: Peter

Southey (Spurs)

FAVOURITE OTHER TEAM:

Huddersfield Town

FOOTBALL HERO OF CHILDHOOD:

Jimmy Greaves

FAVOURITE OTHER SPORT: Cricket

OTHER SPORTS PERSON YOU MOST

ADMIRE: Steve Overt

YOUR BEST EVER ALL TIME XI: Banks,

Kaltz, Cooper, Beckenbauer, Passarella,

Bremner, Ardiles, Giles, Pele, Greaves,

Best. Sub Kempes.

MOST MEMORABLE MATCH: Last

season's F.A. Cup Semi-Final v Wolves

at Hillsborough

BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT: Realising

I needed an operation due to a pelvic

injury — I was out for five months.

FRIENDLIEST AWAY FANS: None

BEST STADIUM PLAYED IN: Wembley

FAVOURITE FOOD AND DRINK: Fish

and chips and a pint of Tetley's mild

MISCELLANEOUS LIKES: . . . DISLIKES:

Eating out, modern music, Tiswas, and

winning. . . Gardening, shopping,

getting up and losing

FAVOURITE SINGERS: Bruce

Springsteen, Toyah

FAVOURITE ACTOR . . . ACTRESS:

John Hurt, Sylvia Kristel

FAVOURITE HOLIDAY RESORT:

Blackpool

BEST FILM SEEN RECENTLY: 'The

Elephant Man'

FAVOURITE TV SHOWS: Shoestring

and Monty Python's Flying Circus

FAVOURITE ACTIVITY ON DAY OFF:

Reading the papers and watching TV

BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON CAREER: My

father, Thomas, and my former

manager at Goole Town, Allan Turner

SUPERSTITIONS: None

INTERNATIONAL HONOURS: None

PERSONAL AMBITION: To win the

League and play international football

IF NOT A PLAYER, WHAT JOB WOULD

YOU DO? Teacher

CAREER AFTER PLAYING: Manager of a

sports complex

WHICH PERSON IN THE WORLD

WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO MEET?

Neil Kinnock MP

Tony Galvin

SHOOT!



Fletch loses battle

PAUL FLETCHER, former England Under-23 cap and once one of the most promising forwards in the game, has lost his fight to save his career.

He broke an ankle playing for his current club Blackpool at Walsall in September, 1980, but has failed to regain match fitness.

Blackpool manager Allan Brown says: "It proved too much for Paul, who did his work every day on the beach, and knowing that no matter how tired he was, he had to start all over again the next day."

'No players worth buying'

— ARSENAL BOSS

ARSENAL, labelled one of the most boring sides in the country by Liverpool manager Bob Paisley, will not be pressurised into buying new players.

Their chairman Denis Hill-Wood spells out the club's policy in a stinging attack on the quality of players available on the transfer market.

"Quite honestly, I don't think there's anyone worth buying right now," says Hill-Wood.

"I'm convinced that had we bought the men we were thinking of, we'd have been worse off than we are at the moment. Our fans must be patient. We have a lot of tremendous youngsters coming through and that's where the future lies."

Arsenal had their lowest gate for 15 years when they beat Middlesbrough to go third in the table.

On attendances, Hill-Wood argues: "This neither pleases me nor worries me too much. Arsenal are doing well playing-wise and I'm sure things will improve. Then you'll see attendances shoot up."

In today's economic climate it is difficult to argue with The Gunners' chairman.

LATE STARTER

THE sudden breakthrough by midfielder man Frank McAvennie into the St Mirren first team has delighted manager Ricky McFarlane...

Not simply because he has the satisfaction of seeing McAvennie blossom into a goalscoring midfielder. But, also, because he knows that he has the player to fill the gap when Lex Richardson is eventually transferred.

McFarlane admits: "When Lex asked for a move I was reluctant about it. You don't like losing good players. But now that Frank has come through so well it isn't as much of a problem."

"He has eased my mind on that — and he has done more because he has established himself as a player who can get goals for us."

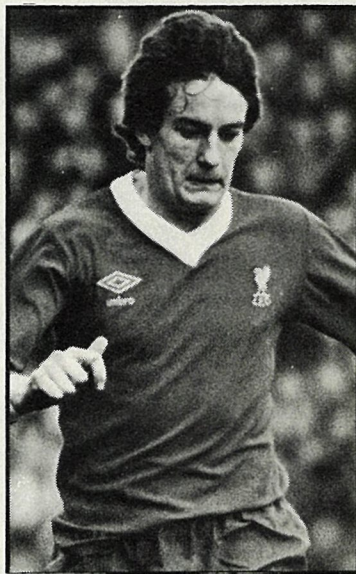
It wasn't any overnight success story for McAvennie, who comes from the sprawling Milton housing scheme in Glasgow. He is now 22-years-old and only stepped up to St Mirren just over a year ago.

"I was a late starter," he grins.

STOKE have taken on former World Cup hero Gordon Banks in the role of specialist coach to their goalkeepers.

The former Leicester, Stoke and England goalkeeper has suffered a series of setbacks since he lost the sight of an eye in a car crash in 1972. He has been unable to hold down a job in the game, being sacked from his last job as manager of non-League Telford.

Banks, welcoming his new chance, says: "I have had a few bitter blows but I will never get football out of my blood. I would never get disillusioned to the extent where I would turn away from the game."



MONEY FOR SALE

AFTER two-months on loan with struggling Derby, defender Richard Money (above) is back at Liverpool.

He refused to stay with the Second Division club until the end of the season, but is still available for transfer. Liverpool would take £200,000 for him.

Iron man Ken

KEN KNIGHTON is fast emerging as the iron man of Football League management after his heavy handed treatment of Orient captain Tommy Taylor.

Since the former Sunderland boss took over the reins at Brisbane Road in September he has fined 15 players a total of more than £1,000.

His attitude could well be adopted by other managers with problem players. Knighton says: "I have been appointed manager here to sort things out. The players know fully my views on discipline. They can learn the easy way or the hard way. That's their choice."

"Any player that steps out of line and breaches what I consider to be club discipline can expect to suffer the consequences."

'GIVE ME TIME'

Pleads West Ham star

FRANCOIS VAN DER ELST knows that West Ham fans have yet to see him play at his best.

Since his £400,000 arrival via American football, van der Elst is still trying to fit in with his new team-mates.

He admitted: "Yes, it's always difficult when you arrive at a new club."

"I try some things that the other players don't understand. They try things that I don't understand."

"But there is no worry. I'm sure it will all work out in the end."

Francois is enjoying English football — even though he only scored once in his first eight games.

He's currently living in the Essex commuter belt close to many of his West Ham colleagues.

Manager John Lyall is certain that van der Elst will soon become a hit with the demanding West Ham fans. He said: "A new player always takes time to settle in."

"But I know what a good player he will become. He's come straight from American football where perhaps the pace and commitment is not so high."

"English football is the toughest in the world and once Francois gets used to the pace, everything will be okay."



Remember van der Elst was the man who destroyed West Ham's hopes in the 1976 European Cup-Winners' Cup Final in Brussels. That night he inspired Anderlecht to a 4-2 win.

FERGIE STAYS LOYAL

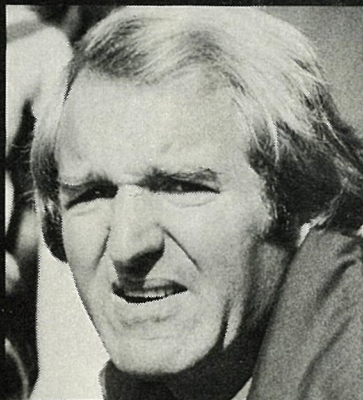
THE loyalty which manager Alex Ferguson demands from his Aberdeen players was put under pressure recently when he was offered the £50,000-a-year job with Wolves.

Firebrand Fergie, who guided the exciting Pittodrie outfit to the Premier Division Championship two years ago, admits frankly: "It was a fabulous offer and it was tempting."

"It would have been a great challenge to take over such a famous team as Wolves."

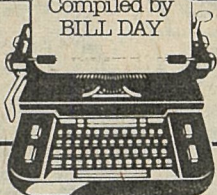
"Eventually, though, I turned it down to stay with The Dons. The deciding factor was what has already been achieved at Pittodrie and what is, I'm sure, to come in the future."

"Anyway, it would be wrong of me to ask my players for loyalty and full commitment to the club when I didn't show the right lead myself."



NEWS DESK

Compiled by
BILL DAY



WOLVES' 'forgotten' star Rafael Villazan is hoping to persuade new boss Ian Greaves he is first team material. The Uruguayan international says: "Reserve team football is a waste of time for me."

Moseley reprieve

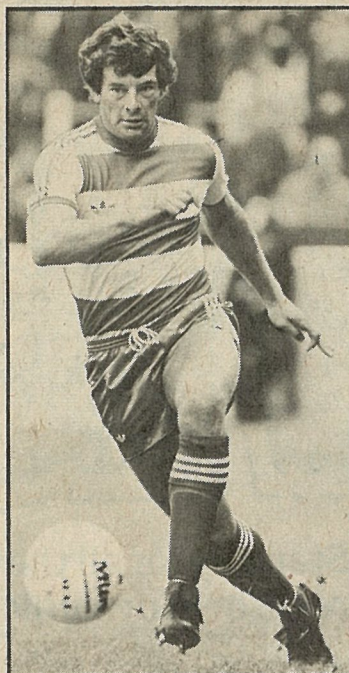
A string of outstanding performances have established goalkeeper Graham Moseley as a fixture in a Brighton side enjoying their most successful season.

But this is the first season, after more than ten years in the game, that Moseley has been recognised as an undisputed regular first team goalkeeper.

For seven years he was no more than a promising understudy to Colin Boulton at Derby, and only managed 32 League games in that time.

Former Brighton manager Alan Mullery was often publicly critical of Moseley's performances, and just over a year ago bought Perry Digweed from Fulham.

But new manager Mike Bailey has always rated Moseley and opted for him in preference to Digweed.



Gillie on the move?

EVEN promotion to the First Division may not keep defender Ian Gillard (above) at Q.P.R.

After 15 years loyal service, popular Ian is ready to seek a fresh challenge.

"My contract expires at the end of the season and although I've had a great career at Loftus Road I feel as though I need a new start."

"I'm prepared to go anywhere providing the offer is right, even abroad."

At 31, Ian could prove a valuable asset to any club seeking a stylish and experienced full-back.

STEVE HUNT has become the key figure in Coventry's plans to improve their First Division position.

Highfield Road general manager Gordon Milne has stated publicly that not only does he want to keep his unsettled midfield star but intends to build the team around Hunt.

Says Milne: "What is in our minds at the moment is to keep him here and build a team around him."

"The signing of Gerry Francis is the first step towards that and we are now working on other deals to bring in the sort of players Hunt has been wanting us to sign."

"By signing Francis we have acquired a player of experience and quality to join Hunt in midfield and we now have other plans in mind for a further injection of new players to strengthen the team."

"Those plans do not include the sale of Hunt."

Briefly

● Dundee's boss Donald Mackay has pledged to hold on to his young stars even though Dundee are currently in dire financial straits.

● Irish League outfit Distillery have had three team-bosses this term, Tommy Lowry, Jimmy Brown and Roy Welsh.

● More than 11,000 fans used the "free" turnstile for the unemployed when Hearts met Motherwell in a Scottish First Division game. The total gate for the game was 11,954, the biggest for a League game at Tynecastle this season.

● Sheffield Wednesday fielded two brothers against Norwich City for the first time since the 60's when the McAnearney's held the stage at Hillsborough. Paul Shirliff made his debut at Carrow Road alongside his 21-year-old brother Peter.

MAJOR MOVES

January

Francois van der Elst, New York Cosmos to West Ham, £400,000.

Adrian Heath, Stoke to Everton, £700,000.

John Ryan, Sheffield United to Manchester City, free.

Dave Watson, Southampton to Stoke, £50,000.

Paul Cannell, Newcastle to Mansfield, free.

Graham Pearce, Barnet to Brighton, £10,000.

Ian Bowyer, Sunderland to Nottingham Forest, £45,000.

John Deehan, W.B.A. to Norwich, £125,000.

Neil Orr, Morton to West Ham, £375,000.

Jeff King, Sheffield Wednesday to Sheffield United, free.

Ray Kennedy, Liverpool to Swansea, £160,000.

Eamonn O'Keefe, Everton to Wigan, £60,000.

Gerry Gow, Manchester City to Rotherham, £80,000.

Martin O'Neill, Manchester City to Norwich, £160,000.

Mike Doyle, Stoke to Bolton, nominal fee.

February

John Lyons, Cambridge to Colchester, £25,000.

Colin Morris, Blackpool to Sheffield United, £100,000.

Sammy McIlroy, Manchester United to Stoke, £350,000.

Trevor Tainton, Bristol City to Torquay, free.

Tommy Hutchison, Manchester City to Bulova, Hong Kong (on loan).

Phil Boyer, Manchester City to Bulova, Hong Kong (on loan).

Gerry Francis, Q.P.R. to Coventry, £150,000 after loan.

● FIFA referee Gwyn Owen (Wales) ducks for cover as the coin tossed by Kevin Keegan threatens to 'bomb' him before England's game against Northern Ireland at Wembley.

ASA'S A GEM

A FEW weeks ago Asa Hartford jumped into his car and along with Len Cantello drove down to the Midlands to play in a testimonial for their old West Bromwich Albion chum, Keith Morton.

They had all had aspirations of the big-time. Hartford and Cantello went on to play regularly in the Football League while Morton drifted into non-League soccer.

The willingness of Asa to play in this small-time game, however, highlights his own love of the game and the motivating force which has made him one of the best players in British soccer at the present time.

City boss, John Bond, says "I wish all my players were as dedicated as Asa."

"He doesn't miss many games in a season. When he is injured he is on and off the treatment table in a flash whereas some other players seem to live in the treatment room when they have an injury."

Asa still has the hole in the heart condition. He said: "When I was examined after the Leeds affair I was told that it could close up in time but it hasn't as yet."



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THE World Cup soccer extravaganza is just around the corner, but I can't remember a time when the game has been in such a poor financial state.

It's hardly the ideal launching pad for football's greatest tournament when you read about clubs such as Bristol City, Hull City, Derby County and others tottering on extinction.

All sorts of suggestions to save the game are being put forward and I keep hearing about brighter play. But how can you turn an ordinary player into an extraordinary one?

It just can't be done. Possibly success for Scotland, England and Northern Ireland in Spain will be just the shot in the arm football in Britain needs.

But gaining triumph in the World Cup Finals when the chips are down will be about as easy as finding a team whose attendances have actually gone up in the past year!

That fact was certainly hammered home to Jock Stein's men last month when they crashed 3-0 to Spain, the host nation, in the Luis Casanova Stadium in Valencia.

Unless you have been living on the moon, you will know that Spain



Scotland's Kenny Dalglish is crowded out by the Spaniards in Valencia.

'SCOTLAND ARE STILL DANGEROUS'

were awarded two penalties and, really, they were pretty soft to say the least.

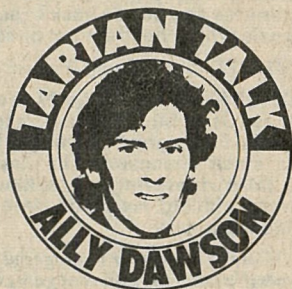
The defeat looks hefty, but there was never such a margin between the teams from what I saw on the television.

I thought Scotland played very well at times and I agree with Jock Stein when he says Alan Hansen was the man of the match against the Spaniards. His performance was near flawless.

And their 'keeper Arconada had more to do than Alan Rough throughout the 90 minutes, but the ball just wouldn't run for the Scots.

Possibly the 3-0 defeat will not harm Scotland too much. Other football nations may look at the scoreline and think Jock Stein's men will be there for the taking in Spain, but this could backfire on them.

Brazil's Tele Santana has said the



Soviet Union are technically superior to Scotland and he is welcome to his opinion, but I just hope that he doesn't write-off the Scots.

That would be foolish. Scotland, as we all know, are at their most dangerous when they are dismissed lightly.

By the way, I must say that I thought the pitch in Valencia looked a bit of a disgrace and the Scottish players, without making excuses, complained about it too.

It looked rutted and bereft of

grass in most parts and I can only hope the Spaniards sort out their playing surfaces before June and the big kick-off.

Pitches like the one in Valencia will do nothing for so-called brighter soccer!

Scotland go back into the international arena later this month when they meet Holland at Hampden on Wednesday (March 24) and again I think this will be an intriguing match.

Chance

I wonder if Jock Stein will switch the team about. Certainly I would jump at the chance of having another go in the number three jersey.

Frankie Gray has almost made it his permanent property lately, but I want him to know I am still about and I haven't lost any of my ambition.

My form has been a bit in and out this season and I have had a couple of niggling injuries, but I feel fine

now. It was great to score a goal last month when we drew 1-1 with Dundee United at Tannadice.

I don't score as often as I should, and every goal is a bonus. I might be a left-back, but I like nothing better than to go forward and have a crack at goal.

Two weeks ago I was talking about Davie Cooper and why he should be included in Scotland's international plans, but it was a pity that an injury against United should have ruled him out of the squad to travel to Spain.

I hope he still gets his opportunity to show his skills against Holland.

And I must also give a pat on the back to our goalkeeper Jim Stewart who is playing really well. I would say he is the most consistent number one in Scotland at the moment, so watch out Alan Rough.

That's all for this week... keep cheering.

Ally Dawson

TARTAN TALK FROM CELTIC'S DANNY McGRAIN NEXT WEEK

**SHOOT
view!**

Milk boosts soccer

THE good news is that the men responsible for running professional football are doing their utmost to save the game from financial disaster.

The Football League unveiled this month the biggest sponsorship in British football history, the £2,250,000 funding of the League Cup by the National Dairy Council.

The cash aid will go directly to the League's 92 clubs. A new Cup has

been produced which will go to the winners of Saturday's League Cup Final and be known as the "Milk Cup".

Meanwhile, two of soccer's most distinguished ambassadors, Sir Matt Busby and Jimmy Hill, have been given the responsibility of putting the fun back into soccer.

Their job will be to abolish the annoying aspects of soccer which have driven fans from the terraces.

Players contracts, transfers, overseas players, the points system, and changes in the law will also be scrutinised in the most determined effort yet to rid the game of its problems.

The bad news is that the League's chairmen have produced a set of well-intentioned proposals that only skim the surface of the problems threatening the game.

The time for talk is over — now is

the time for action.

And they could be making a big mistake if they try to meddle with the laws of a game which have worked well for more than half a century.

They ignore two major issues, hooliganism and the fact that there is too much football for the public appetite.

We must pray that soccer's administrators don't regret that oversight in the desperately anxious weeks ahead.

But milk money will do for a start!

● Soccer Crisis — the way ahead! (pages 34-35).

SHOOT: It's been a little difficult keeping in touch with your national team over the past four or five months. How are your preparations progressing?

DZIUBA: We left Poland for a training camp in Italy early in February. The important thing was to get fit again and build ourselves up physically. Results against club sides aren't that important. What we were looking for was a gradual improvement in fitness and team work. Our foreign based players weren't with us, but they'll be 100 per cent fit by playing regularly for their clubs.

SHOOT: The present Polish team is relatively unknown in Britain. How does it compare with your outstanding side of 1974?

DZIUBA: It's difficult to compare the two teams. Eight years ago the side had many outstanding players who were coached and prepared in a first class way. I think the present team could reach that standard if

we change the team and our style just a little. Personally, I believe we should make more use of the full-backs, but as I play right-back people will accuse me of bias!

SHOOT: You had a successful tour of South America last year, beating World Champions Argentina 2-1 in Buenos Aires. You left a big impression on Cesar Menotti . . .

DZIUBA: After beating Argentina I began to think Poland actually had a chance of winning the 1982 World Cup. But West Germany are so strong . . . Spain have some great players and they're playing at home . . . but I must be honest and say that Brazil are my tip. They have their wonderful technique incorporated into a good system. No European side can match them



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WORLD CUP
CAPTAINS**

**No.11
MAREK
DZIUBA
Poland**

varies according to our opponents. I believe we are at our strongest on the counter-attack, as we break very quickly from defence. This was how we overcame East Germany in our decisive qualifying ties.

SHOOT: You won 3-2 in Leipzig — that was a tremendous result.

DZIUBA: It was the most important game I've ever played for Poland. We realised that for many of the team it represented our last chance to play in the World Cup Finals.

SHOOT: Tell us a little about yourself.

DZIUBA: I'm 26 and play for LKZ Lodz. Although I play right-back, I love to join our attack whenever I

'Nobody can

in this respect. I'd love to think we could win the World Cup, but I'd have to go for Brazil.

SHOOT: Who are the Polish players to watch out for in the Finals?

DZIUBA: We play a 4-4-2 formation with Włodzimierz Smolarek and Andrzej Szarmach in attack. Smolarek is a real fighter, a player who gives everything for 90 minutes and has a knack of scoring goals when they're most needed.

SHOOT: What about Grzegorz Lato?

DZIUBA: He plays slightly deeper these days, but still scores a lot of goals. Experience has taught him to 'smell' chances and he plays as a 'false' right winger, breaking from midfield. He's won almost 100 caps now.

SHOOT: Does your manager pick a specific team for different games?

DZIUBA: He has done this on occasions, yes. Our tactical line-up

LEFT . . . Dziuba watches his team-mates beating East Germany 3-2 after a leg injury had forced him to leave the field in Leipzig.

RIGHT . . . Poland striker Włodzimierz Smolarek — highly-rated by his captain.

ABOVE RIGHT . . . It's that World Cup feeling as Poland celebrate a victory on the road to Spain.



can. I remember one goal I scored against Algeria when our 'keeper threw me the ball, I played a one-two with Iwan, beat two men and scored. That was a marvellous feeling, but I also remember a game against Holland in Chorzow which we won 2-0. The Dutch played an offside trap and I tried to combat this by coming through from defence. I found myself running on to a through ball with only goalkeeper Schrijvers to beat and all the Holland players appealing for offside. I must have lost my concentration because I blew the chance — I often have nightmares about this, waking up from a deep sleep in a cold sweat!

SHOOT: You're grouped with Italy, Chile and Cameroon in the First

Round in Spain. What were your feelings about the draw?

DZIUBA: As much as anything I was glad we were drawn to play in Vigo and La Coruna because the weather is cooler in the North of Spain. These games are still too far ahead to speak about. We're more concerned about our preparations. If we arrive in Spain with our 'homework' done properly we'll have no worries. For example, we've been preparing by playing in warm temperatures... the sort we may encounter in the Second Round in other parts of Spain. I recall playing in Morocco when it was 90 degrees and my reactions were a split-second slower than usual because of this. Now I'll know what to expect if it's that hot.

WORLD CUP RECORD

Year	Opponents	Result
1938	Brazil	5-6
1974	Argentina	3-2
	Haiti	7-0
	Italy	2-1
	Sweden	1-0
	Yugoslavia	2-1
	West Germany	0-1
	Brazil	1-0
1978	West Germany	0-0
	Tunisia	1-0
	Mexico	3-1
	Argentina	0-2
	Peru	1-0
	Brazil	1-3

Lato heads home against Sweden during the 1974 World Cup Finals.



match Brazil'



HOW THEY QUALIFIED

Malta 0, Poland 2
Malta 1, East Germany 2
Poland 1, East Germany 0
East Germany 2, Poland 3
East Germany 5, Malta 1
Poland 6, Malta 0

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Poland	4	4	0	0	12	2	8
E. Germany	4	2	0	2	9	6	4
Malta	4	0	0	4	2	15	0

SHOOT: Your manager, Antoni Piechniczek, isn't known in the West. How important is the manager of a team?

DZIUBA: It's vital to have a manager who knows what he's talking about, but in many cases players can impose their views on him. Tactics should be chosen to suit the players' ability and not vice versa. I don't think players should be asked to do things which aren't natural to their play. Our manager doesn't ask us to play out of position — that sort of thing can lead to disaster.

SHOOT: Have you been able to see the British teams regularly throughout the winter?

DZIUBA: It's not been easy as our

television coverage has been poor. We haven't seen many English First Division games, although I believe it is one of the world's strongest Divisions. It seems to me that English clubs have their own way of playing — but England has trouble with the national team. A club can be successful if it can dominate in the air, so therefore if you play against the national team it's almost impossible to lose if you have a good goalkeeper and two strong central defenders. To win at the highest level you have to think all the time, be alert to what's going on, to be able to change the pattern of a game. But, from what I've seen, English players can't do this. Maybe the influence of foreign players will eventually change this.

NEXT WEEK:
MICHEL PLATINI
FRANCE

THE MANAGER Antoni Piechniczek



TOOK over as national team manager on January 5th, 1981, after his predecessor Kulesza had fallen out with star players Boniek, Zmuda and Szarmach.

Born on May 3rd, 1942, Antoni Piechniczek won three Polish caps during a long career as a defender with Ruch Chorzow, Legia Warsaw and AZS Warsaw before emigrating to Chateauroux in the French Second Division.

Returning to Poland, he gained his first managerial experience with Odra Opole between 1975 and 1979, and started well as national team coach with thrilling away wins in East Germany and Argentina in his first year.



Midfield schemer Zbigniew Boniek is chased by East Germany's Frank Baum.

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ON THE MOVE

REAL VALLADOLID spent ten minutes on the pitch saluting the crowd at the end of their 2-0 Spanish League win over Osasuna.

It wasn't that they'd given a sensational performance, but they were saying a final 'adios' to their Jose Zorrilla stadium — their home for the last 41 years.

For their next home game against Athletic Bilbao, Valladolid moved to their new World Cup stadium at El Prado, now christened "El Neuvo Estadio Jose Zorrilla."

CHILE WON'T FORGET

THE atmosphere between Chile and West Germany is already hotting up — well before their World Cup confrontation on June 20th.

The Chileans are incensed by reports that Bayern Munich general manager Uli Hoeness rates them as 'inferior to the average German amateur team'.

Chile's manager Luis Santibanez has called Hoeness a clown and vows: "Nobody in our team will forget these words when we take the field in Gijon in June."

THE RUSSIANS ARE READY

SCOTLAND'S World Cup rivals, the USSR, are now back home and set to start their League programme after their winter tour of Spain.

Even before the World Cup draw put the Soviets in Malaga, they'd been on the Costa del Sol getting used to the climate, and they also ran up a series of good results in friendly matches against Second and Third Division opponents.

The Russians averaged three goals a game, even in third gear, and front-runners Shengalia and Blokhin captured most of the headlines.

Oddly, their worst performance was in the cold at Madrid, where only two late goals scraped them a 2-2 draw against a combined side formed by Real Madrid players and their nursery side Castilla.

If the Russians were to reach the World Cup Final, they'd certainly be cautious about their chances — they seem to be jinxed in the Santiago Bernabeu stadium.

They lost there in August, losing star midfielder David Kipiani with a fractured ankle-bone.

And though Kipiani finally reappeared in Madrid, Blokhin limped off injured midway through the first half.



TOURING GERMANS UNDER FIRE

WEST GERMANY'S controversial short tour of South America gets under way on March 21st in Brazil, with a second game against Argentina three days later.

The European Champions' decision to go to South America at this time has been criticised at home. Kaiserlautern manager Kalli Feldkamp said: "Clubs should be given priority consideration. It's wrong that our players are away on such a demanding trip as the League season comes to its climax."

National boss Jupp Derwall wasn't amused. "Comments like this really annoy me," he said. "It's all very well complaining now, but one should have a bit of national pride. Everyone wants us to do well in the World Cup and to achieve this the preparation must be right."

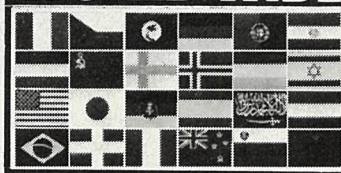
"The more difficult the opposition the better. If we lose both games there'll be less pressure on my players."

"Many people expect too much of us in Spain. If we reach the Semi-Finals we'll have been very successful."

● Recognise him? He's one of the best strikers in the world and will spearhead West Germany's World Cup bid this summer, when he certainly won't be clowning around. Answer at foot of page.



WORLD WIDE



Compiled by CHRIS DAVIES

AN UNEXPECTED reverse for Peru's World Cup hopes has been the sudden discovery that skipper Jose Velasquez is suffering from typhoid fever.

The 29-year-old midfielder was rushed to hospital, and doctors rapidly vaccinated the rest of the squad and the group of journalists who'd been at the training camp.

Manager Tim was the only man to refuse point-blank to 'go under the needle', and the doctors finally persuaded him to take an oral vaccine.

World Cup skipper banned

CAMEROON'S World Cup captain, François Doumbé Lea, has just served a one-month suspension imposed on him by his club, Union Douala.

The ban was for "an intolerably casual attitude" and for skipping both training sessions and League matches.

Apparently Doumbé Lea only believed in turning out for the more important matches, and missed no fewer than 24 games last year.

Two of his team-mates have also been suspended — one of them, Ngassam, for grabbing the club treasurer and stealing a bonus for a match he hadn't played in!

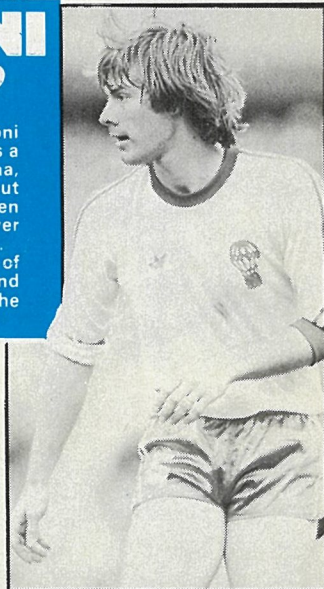
By the way, three of the Cameroon Youth Team that did so well in England's group in Australia have also been banned for a year.

Their idea of cashing-in on their World Youth Championship success was apparently to sign good contracts with several clubs at the same time...

MARANGONI 'THE BEST'

EX-SUNDERLAND player Claudio Marangoni has been elected the best Number 5 (that's a midfield position over there) in Argentina, based on match ratings obtained throughout last season — not a bad performance when you consider that his club, Huracan, never even remotely looked like doing anything.

Strangely, only three of the year's team of best performers — Tarantini, Maradona and reserve 'keeper Baley — are members of the Argentine World Cup squad.



West Germany are planning to have a permanent venue for their Cup Final. At the moment it's played on a different ground each year, but there are plans to make Frankfurt (where the F.A.'s headquarters are) the German Wembley.

Our World Cup clown is Bayern Munich and West Germany star Karl-Heinz Rummenigge, who won his 50th Cap when he led his country to a 3-1 win over Portugal recently.

News flashes

● Rumours in the Brazilian Press say that Cesar Menotti is trying to get himself sacked as manager of Argentina because he believes his team has no hope of retaining the World Cup. The rumours say Menotti doesn't want to damage his prestige — and his earning capacity — abroad.

● Auxerre's 3-1 victory over leaders St.-Etienne closed up the positions at the top of The French League and allowed Bordeaux to become joint leaders, one point ahead of Monaco. Surprise of the season is that unfashionable Laval are fourth.

● Mario Kempes' wife Mavi lost all her luggage in Buenos Aires recently. She took a taxi home from Ezeiza airport; got out when she arrived home; and the taxi-driver sped away with all the luggage.

● Uruguay's new national team manager, Omar Borrás, has named a revolutionary squad for the international tournament in New Delhi. His list of 18 players includes only one member of the Uruguayan side that won the Copa de Oro just over a year ago — and that's goalkeeper Rodolfo Rodríguez.

● Boca Juniors' recent Far Eastern tour produced a profit of 765,000 dollars — about £415,000 — but Diego Maradona's share of the proceeds was £115,000, and a further £178,000 were used to pay off wages and bonuses owed to the rest of the squad. The balance has done little to ease Boca's crippling debts.

● Real Madrid prepared for their Spanish Cup clash against neighbours Atletico by watching a video tape of last year's England v Brazil game at Wembley. Afterwards their manager Vujadin Boskov commented: "It's great to watch the Brazilians." No comment!

England back in the groove



Bryan Robson gives Pat Jennings no chance with this first minute goal at Wembley.



PERHAPS England's 4-0 win over Northern Ireland flattered them, but it was a good start to their World Cup build-up, while, as Billy Bingham said: "It brought some of our lads down to earth after qualifying."



Asa Hartford in the thick of the action in Valencia.

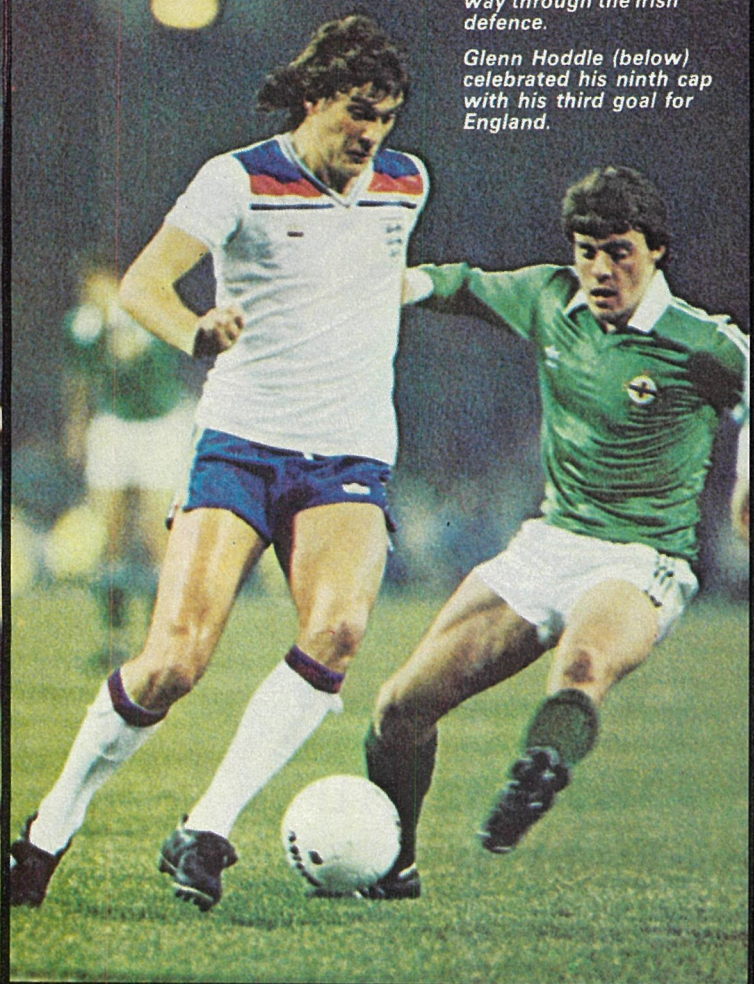
Scots pay the p

SCOTLAND know they didn't deserve to lose to Spain by 3-0. Two of the Spanish goals were a result of dreadful penalty decisions by the Dutch referee, but the experience will have taught Jock Stein's team a lot.



Left: Tony Morley finds a way through the Irish defence.

Glenn Hoddle (below) celebrated his ninth cap with his third goal for England.



Ray Wilkins was outstanding in his new role as sweeper.

enalty



Enrique Saura moves in to tackle John Wark.

Kenny Dalglish is outnumbered by Miguel Alonso and Roberto Lopez Ufarte as he tries to win the ball.

SHOOT!



SHOOT columnist Gary Shaw blasts Aston Villa's winner against Coventry.

G-MEN

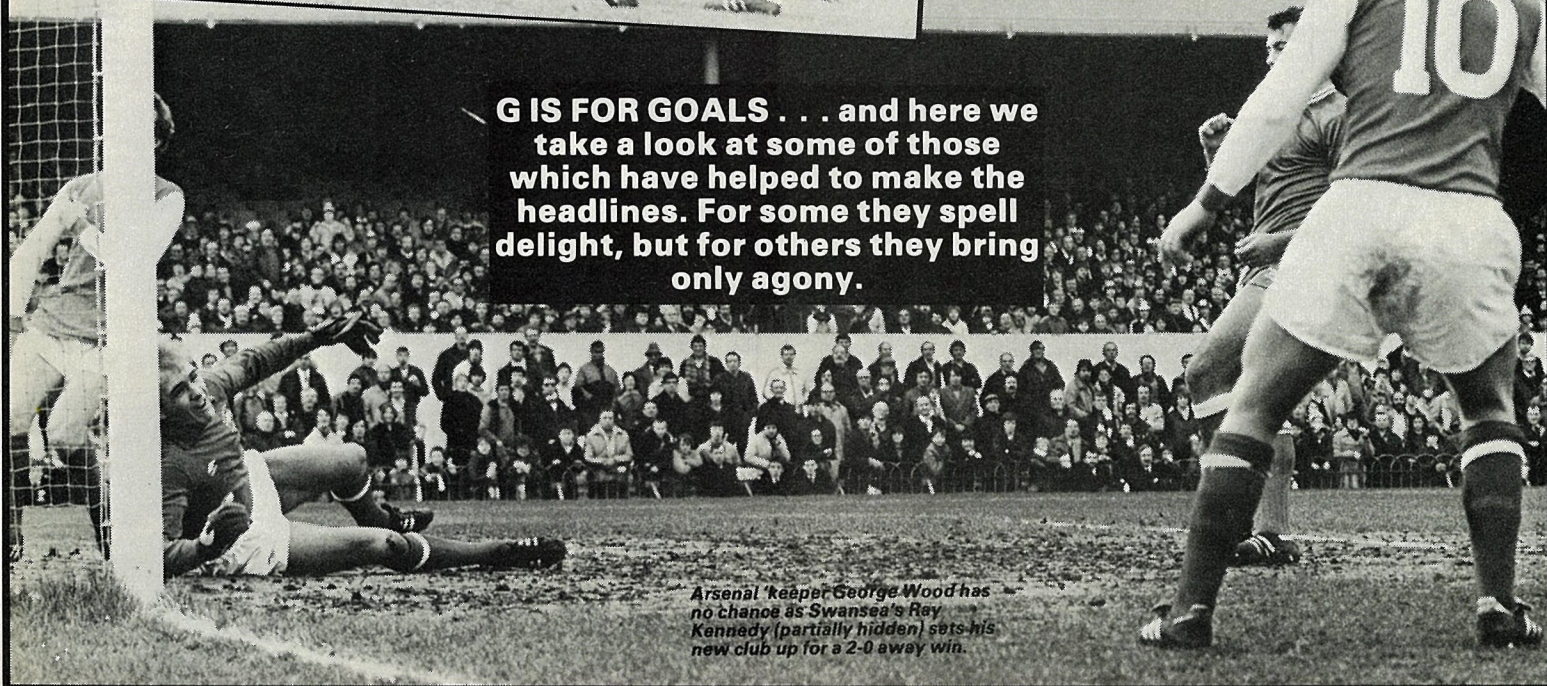


Graeme Souness (right) takes the plaudits after netting the first of Liverpool's two goals at Leeds.



Luther Blissett scores the first of his two goals past 'keeper Mervyn Day as Watford win 3-1 at Orient.

G IS FOR GOALS . . . and here we take a look at some of those which have helped to make the headlines. For some they spell delight, but for others they bring only agony.



Arsenal 'keeper George Wood has no chance as Swansea's Ray Kennedy (partially hidden) sets his new club up for a 2-0 away win.

GOAL-LINES

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you liked best in the latest issue of SHOOT! All letters must be exclusive

to SHOOT!

This week's Star Letter comes from Paul Jarman of Billericay, Essex, who wins our Special Prize of £10. He writes:

NO ADVANTAGE TO RANGERS



SO the saga of Q.P.R.'s synthetic pitch goes on.

Managers of teams who have played there usually have a bad comment to say about the pitch — AFTER the match — and opposing fans say that it gives Q.P.R. an unfair advantage.

May I put the record straight. Here are Q.P.R.'s home records since they were relegated in 1979:

	P	W	D	L	F	A
1979/80	21	10	9	2	46	25
1980/81	21	11	7	3	36	12
1981/82	14	9	3	2	20	6

(up to Feb 20)

The results show that they have already lost as many games at home as they did two seasons ago (on grass) and are likely to lose as many or more than last season (also on grass).

So as far as I can see, it hasn't made a difference, but shows how many Second Division managers can be bad losers.

● Too many teams have gone to Loftus Road with a negative attitude and it's that which gives Q.P.R. the upper hand. Teams who have approached the Omniturf positively — i.e. Luton and Chelsea (above) — have been rewarded.

Well done, Cally

A PAT on the back for ex-Liverpool and Swansea player Ian Callaghan who took on the manager's job at Fourth Division Crewe.

Cally said that football had given him a lot and this was his chance to put something back into the game.

One thing he has done which typifies the man is his refusal to be paid the usual manager's wage.

He is on the same amount of money as his players.

MARTIN ANDERSON
MIDDLE HERRINGTON.

● No one should be surprised at Cally's gesture — it's typical of the man who's been a credit to the game for more than 20 years.

Ooops... they said it!

FROM SHOOT (dated June 10th 1978):

"I've a sneaky suspicion the Scots will reach the last four at least" — Ray Clemence.

"The side I don't fancy to win is Argentina." — Ray Wilkins.

"The only danger in Scotland's group will come from Holland" — Gordon Hill.

Let's hope that Phil Thompson and Co. are more accurate than their predecessors.

ANDREW GORDON,
KENSAL GREEN.

● When football becomes easy to predict it becomes dull. But I still say it's Brazil's World Cup again.

Don't ban the foreigners

I AM disgusted by reports that there are plans to ban overseas players from the Football League in an effort to save the jobs of British players.

This is ludicrous. Foreign stars, with their skilful ball play, have improved our game, attracting more supporters and so making more money for the clubs.

If stars like Ossie Ardiles, Ricky Villa and Ivan Golac were to leave then attendances would undoubtedly fall. This fall could even cost some players their jobs.

Foreign stars can also pass on their skills to up and coming players and are therefore improving the game of the future. This can only be a good thing.

ANDREW SEAMAN,
OUNDELE.

● In fact there's been no change in the ruling. Players from countries outside the E.E.C. must be of good international standard — i.e. Villa and Ardiles. Unfortunately for Norwich, Wynton Rufer's handful of caps for New Zealand didn't qualify him.

Pen-pal

I'M a 21-year-old Italian boy and I'd like to correspond with fans who collect banners, scarves, magazines and other souvenirs.

ANDREA VERONESE,
VIA LONGHENA 7,
CP 20139 MILANO,
ITALY.

Woodcock's miracles

IN all the reports since the World Cup draw all I've read is who will lead the England forward line?

Players such as Regis, Mariner, Francis are being continually mentioned.

But what about Tony Woodcock, who is now week in week out performing little less than miracles for F.C. Cologne. Has Ron Greenwood forgotten about this now world-class player?

Come on Ron, buy a plane ticket and watch the lad, he could be the key to our success.

If he has any doubts, let me quote what his manager Rinus Michels said about him "If England can afford to leave him out they must have a brilliant team."

COLIN ALDERSON,
ALTENA,
WEST GERMANY

● Tony is worried that he could be forgotten playing in West Germany, but he came on as sub during the Northern Ireland game and will probably be in the 22 for Spain... with a West German Championship medal already safe.



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small, medium or large. While every letter is

read, our Expert regrets he cannot reply to

individual letters personally.

Penalty

Has a goalkeeper ever taken a penalty in a Football League match?

JANIE-MARIE MCGLEAVE,
FALKIRK

● Yes, Janie-Marie — and scored, too! — though naturally it doesn't happen all that often.

In 1973-74, for instance, Alex Stepney scored from the spot against both Leicester and Birmingham.

But, unless he does score, it can be a pretty dangerous move — as another fine 'keeper, the late Sam Bartram, once found to his cost.

Bartram, who made more than 800 appearances for Charlton, once took a pre-War penalty against Birmingham — and hit the crossbar with such force that the ball boomeranged back to the half-way line... with Sam in embarrassed hot pursuit to prevent a goal in his empty net at the other end!

13 at Old Trafford

Is it right that the official gate at one Football League match was less than 20?

JOHN STAMP,
LIVERPOOL

● It is, John — and the game was played at Manchester United's famous home at Old Trafford, too!

Certainly the circumstances were a bit unusual — Stockport County's own ground was then under suspension — but, all the same, only 13 spectators actually paid to see their "home" Division Two game with Leicester on 7th May, 1921.

Moore for West Ham

Although he's long retired, Bobby Moore is still my favourite footballer — and I'd like to know how many games he played for both England and West Ham?

AMIR SAADOON HUSSAIN,
IRAQ

● Bobby holds the record with 108 full internationals, Amir — plus another eight games for the England Under-23 team.

For West Ham, between 1958 and 1974, he played a club-record 544 League games.

SHORT PASSES

● Allan Clarke scored 110 goals in 273 League games for Leeds; and ten goals in 19 full internationals for England.

(THOMAS MULVANEY, Coventry)

● Aston Villa have won the F.A. Cup seven times — 1887, 1895, 1897, 1905, 1913, 1920, and 1957 — which is the record.

(ROSLAN YUSOFF, West Malaysia)

Short Passes are replies to readers' letters.

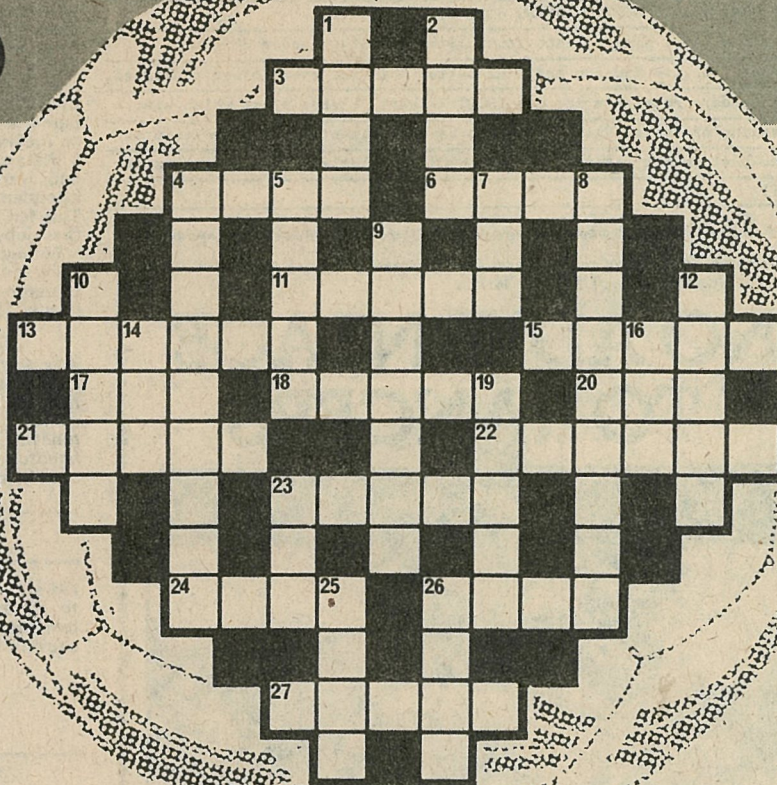
On the ball CROSSWORD

ACROSS:—

- (3) Ivan —, Southampton defender. (5)
 (4) — Hollins, Arsenal utility man. (4)
 (6) The "offside" one often ends attacking moves. (4)
 (11) Use five letters from Coventry City to make a valuable hard substance. (5)
 (13) Mike —, Brighton winger. (6)
 (15) — Brown, manager of Blackpool. (5)
 (17) If Liverpool, Charlton & Doncaster make "VAN"; what do Bradford, Aldershot & Stoke make? (3)
 (18) See 7 Down. (5)
 (20) Headwear associated with Luton! (3)
 (21) — Mill, ground of Mansfield Town. (5)
 (22) Paul —, Ipswich Town 'keeper. (6)
 (23) — Ardiles, Tottenham's midfield star. (5)
 (24) — ead —, play at Elm Park. (4)
 (26) — Park; Dundee's ground. (4)
 (27) David —, Luton Town manager. (5)

DOWN:—

- (1) Painful ailment, on the foot especially. (4)
 (2) Paul —, Leeds United defender. (4)
 (4) Bristol City's Swedish keeper. (3 & 6)
 (5) "Raise up" from the initial letters of Orient, Hull, Tranmere, Ipswich & Swindon. (5)
 (7 & 18 Across) Preston goalkeeper. (3)
 (8) Notts County midfielder. (4 & 5)
 (9) Graeme —, Liverpool skipper. (7)
 (10) Elton John takes it at Watford board meetings. (5)
 (12) Colin —, Chelsea defender. (5)
 (14) Mark Rh —; Rotherham defender. (3)
 (16) One circuit of the ground. (3)
 (19) Take five letters from Newcastle to make a division of a play. (5)
 (23) If Wrexham gives "ARM"; what does Swindon give? (3)
 (25) Brighton play at the — stone Ground. (4)
 (26) — Crombie, Grimsby Town defender. (4)



ANSWERS ON PAGE 32



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WHEN England play France in our World Cup opener in Bilbao on June 16th, I doubt if we'll use the sweeper system that worked efficiently against Northern Ireland.

I thought Ray Wilkins did ever so well in his new role playing behind the back four, but if you put me on the spot I'd have to say that we'll probably revert to our more conventional tactics in the World Cup.

That isn't to say we shouldn't continue the experiment. It could prove to be our World Cup ace; and at least we know we can switch our formation if necessary.

Playing from the back suits Ray. He made good use of his ability to read situations and his passing was spot-on against the Irish.

Manchester United manager Ron Atkinson was quoted as saying I was the better man for such a job, although when I've played at the back for England it's been in a more traditionally defensive role.

Adapt

I said last month that there isn't time for England to adapt to a new way of playing before the World Cup Finals and I still stand by this, although we all felt the sweeper system is worth trying again.

I'd like to test it against Continental opposition and I'm sorry England didn't fix up a game to replace the cancelled friendly against France this month. Playing against another European side would be the ideal way of finding if Ray can be as successful against a non-British team.

You never know, though. If the system works well in the four

'SWEEPER SYSTEM UNLIKELY FOR WORLD CUP'

remaining warm-up games we could present France with a few problems in Spain, as they won't be used to a British team playing in this way.

The bonus about using Ray as sweeper is that if things aren't working out he can always move forward to midfield without too much trouble during the game.

Basically, we're willing to try anything that may bring us success and apart from Ray, I was pleased with the way Viv Anderson and Kenny Sansom attacked the Irish. I can't remember seeing a pair of full-backs getting into the opposing penalty area so often.

The other big 'plus' was the form

of Trevor Francis, who looked razor sharp until he was injured. Trevor and Kevin Keegan worked well together in attack, while Cyrille Regis did all that could have been expected of him coming on as sub.

It was a cold night, but Cyrille got into the tempo of the match right away and was unlucky not to have scored.

Again, though, it would be good to see what Cyrille and other inexperienced players can do against Continental opposition. That's the crunch.

It was a deserved victory, although I'm not sure how much

"Ray Wilkins (left) and Cyrille Regis (right) both impressed in England's 4-0 defeat of Northern Ireland."

significance the 'friendly' results of the World Cup Finalists have.

Obviously it's a confidence booster to go to Spain with a string of victories behind you, but in Spain everyone except the hosts will be playing away and it's a different ball game playing on neutral territory.

France beat Italy 2-0 and they'll be very pleased with that. Teams who go to the Finals with a few defeats behind them in recent months must be at a slight disadvantage.

I've always felt we have players who can do very well in Spain — but they've got to prove it.

Ossie Ardiles says Glenn Hoddle is world-class and I'll be delighted if



BRYAN ROBSON
Writes for you

Glenn shows that sort of form in the Finals. It's the same with Trevor Francis and Kevin Keegan — if they turn it on as they can, England could surprise a few people.

This weekend we don't have a League match, as we were due to play League Cup Finalists Liverpool.

Instead, United are playing a friendly in Kuwait against their national team. I don't expect our World Cup opponents to give too much away in respect of free-kicks and set moves, although it's a good chance to generally assess some of their players.

I played there with West Brom last year and they had some skilful players. I don't know what sort of a side they'll put out against United, but Ray, Steve Coppell and I must pick up a few things that will be of use when we come to play them in Bilbao on June 25th.

Bryan Robson



YOU ARE THE REF

compiled by Keith Hackett



1

An attacker deliberately stoops and brings a challenging opponent down. Do you: (a) wave play on, (b) award an indirect free-kick, or (c) award a direct free-kick?

2

A player taking a throw-in throws the ball directly into the opponent's goal. Should you: (a) award a goal, (b) award a goal-kick, or (c) retake the throw?

3

A defender jumps up and down immediately in front of an opponent taking a throw. Should you: (a) take no action, or (b) stop play and caution the defender?

MATCH POINT

I've already sent my congratulations to Peter Willis of Durham — the referee for Saturday's big game at Wembley. He's been a great ref over the years and on the times I've run a line for him he's won a great deal of respect. There's no doubt that being in charge of a Cup Final at Wembley is one of the pinnacles of any ref's career. I know, because I was in charge of last season's F.A. Cup Final. You're looked after very well over the weekend, and walking out with the Manchester City and Spurs players is a moment I'll never forget. I won't be at Wembley this time. I've got another match, but it's unlikely that it'll be quite such an attraction... Tranmere Rovers v Northampton.

ANSWERS

1. Award a direct free-kick (c). This defender is clearly attempting to distract his opponent. This is an offence which crops up quite regularly, even at Football League level.

2. Stop play and caution the defender (b). The defender is clearly attempting to distract his opponent. This is an offence which crops up quite regularly, even at Football League level.

LINE-UPS...RESULT

Wednesday, Feb. 10

(Continued)

Fourth Division

HARTLEPOOL (1) 3 (Houchen pen, Johnson 2)
SCUNTHORPE (2) 3 (Telfer, Stewart, Moss pen) 2,001

PETERBOROUGH (1) 3 (Cooke pen, Clarke, Chard)
HULL (0) 0 3,161

TORQUAY (1) 1 (Winn)
HEREFORD (0) 2 (Harvey, Dobson) 1,914

Scottish First

DUNFERMLINE (0) 1 (McNaughton)
HAMILTON (2) 3 (Wright, Donnelly, McDowell) 850

E. STIRLING (1) 2 (McCaig, Blair)
AYR (0) 1 (Fleeting) 670

Scottish Second

ALBION (0) 0
CLYDE (1) 1 (Nevin) 460

BRECHIN (0) 1 (Campbell)
STENHOUSEMUIR (0) 1 (Jenkins) 326

EAST FIFE (0) 0
MONTROSE (1) 1 (Allen) 294

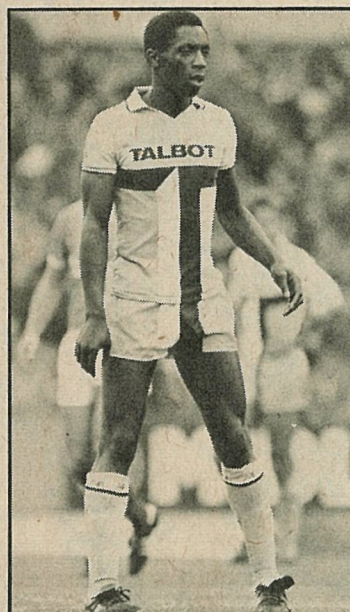
Saturday, Feb. 13

F.A. Cup

(Fifth Round)

CHELSEA (1) 2 (Rhoades-Brown, Lee)
LIVERPOOL (0) 0 41,422
Chelsea: Francis, Locke, Hutchings, Nutton, Droy, Pates, Rhoades-Brown, Hales, Lee, Walker, Fillyer.
Liverpool: Grobbelaar, Neal, Lawrenson, Kennedy, Whelan, Hansen, Dalglish, Lee, Rush, McDermott (Johnston), Souness.

COVENTRY (1) 4 (Thompson 2, Hateley 2)
OXFORD (0) 0 20,251
Coventry: Blyth, Thomas, Barnes, Francis (Jacobs), Dyson, Gillespie, Bodak, Bradford, Hateley, Thompson, Hunt.
Oxford: Burton, Doyle, Fogg, Jeffrey, Briggs, Wright, Brock (Kearns), Foley, Cassells, Thomas, Smithers.



Coventry striker Garry Thompson.

C. PALACE 0
ORIENT 0 14,501
C. Palace: Barron, Hinshelwood, Boulter, Murphy, Wicks, Cannon, Brooks, Smillie, Walsh, Hilaire (Langley), Mabbutt.
Orient: Day, Foster, Fisher, Taylor, Gray, Osgood, Godfrey, Margerrison, Moores, Silkman, Hughton.

LEICESTER (0) 2 (O'Neill, Terry (og)) 27,991
WATFORD (0) 0
Leicester: Wallington, Williams, Friar, May, Peake, O'Neill, Lynex (Melrose), Lineker, Young, Wilson, Kelly.
Watford: Sherwood, Rice, Rostron, Taylor, Terry, Bolton, Blissett, Armstrong (Callaghan), Jenkins, Lohman, Barnes.

QPR (2) 3 (Stainrod, Allen, Howe)
GRIMSBY (0) 1 (Moore (K)) 13,344
QPR: Hucker, Fenwick, Gillard, Waddock (Fereday), Howe, Roeder, Micklewhite, Flanagan, Allen, Stainrod, Gregory.
Grimsby: Batch, Moore (D), Crombie, Waters, Wigginton, Moore (K), Brolly, Ford, Drinkell, Mitchell (Beacock), Stone.

SHREWSBURY (2) 2 (Cross, King)
IPSWICH (0) 1 (D'Avray) 13,965
Shrewsbury: Wardle, King, Johnson, Cross, Griffin, Keay, Tong, McNally, Atkins, Biggins (Dungworth), Bates.
Ipswich: Cooper, Burley, McCall, Mills (D'Avray), Osman, Hunter, Wark, Muhren, O'Callaghan, Brazil, Gates.

TOTTENHAM (1) 1 (Falco)
ASTON VILLA (0) 0 43,490
Tottenham: Clemence, Hughton, Miller, Price, Roberts, Perryman, Ardiles, Falco, Galvin, Hoddle, Crooks (Archibald).
Aston Villa: Rimmer, Swain, Williams, Evans, McNaught, Bremner, Mortimer, Geddis, Withe, Cowans, Morley.

WBA (1) 1 (Regis)
NORWICH (0) 0 18,867
WBA: Grew, Bennett, Statham, Lewis, Wile, Robertson, Cross, King, Regis, Owen, Mackenzie.
Norwich: Woods, Symonds, Downs, McGuire, Walford, Watson, Barham (Jack), O'Neill, Deehan, Bertschin, Mendham.

First Division

ARSENAL (0) 1 (Meade)
NOTTS COUNTY (0) 0 18,229
Arsenal: Wood, Hollins, Sansom, Talbot, O'Leary, Whyte, Vaessen, Sunderland, Davis, Nicholas (Meade), Rix.
Notts Co: Avramovic, Benjamin, O'Brien, Goodwin, Kilcine, Richards, Chiedozie (Christie), Masson, McCulloch, Hooks, Mair.

EVERTON 0
STOKE 0 20,656
Everton: Southall, Borrows, Ratcliffe, Higgins, Wright, Richardson, Heath, Irvine, Sharp, Ferguson, Ross.
Stoke: Fox, Kirk, Hampton, Dodd, Watson, McAughtrie, McIlroy, O'Callaghan, Chapman, Bracewell, Maguire.

MANCHESTER CITY (2) 4 (Francis, Reeves, McDonald, Stevens (og))
BRIGHTON (0) 0 30,038
Man. City: Corrigan, Ranson, McDonald, Reid, Bond (Kinsey), Caton, Ryan, Reeves, Francis, Hartford, Power.
Brighton: Moseley, Stevens, Nelson, Grealish, Foster, Gating, Case, Ritchie, Ryan, McNab, Smith.

MIDDLESBROUGH (0) 1 (McAndrew, pen)
SWANSEA (1) 1 (Kennedy) 11,209
Middlesbrough: Platt, Craggs, Bailey, Ross, Baxter, Nattrass, Cochrane, Otto, Hodgson, Ashcroft, McAndrew.
Swansea: Davies, Marustik, Hadziabdic, Irwin, Kennedy, Rajkovic (Robinson), Curtis, James (R), James (L), Stanley, Charles.

SOUTHAMPTON (1) 2 (Keegan, Channon)
NOTTM. FOREST (0) 0 21,350
Southampton: Katalinic, Golac, Holmes, Baker, Nicholl, Waldron, Keegan, Channon, Hebbard, Armstrong, Ball.
Nottm. Forest: Shilton, Anderson, Gunn, Needham, Young, Bowyer, Mills, Rober (Gray), Fashanu, Ward, Robertson.

WEST HAM (0) 2 (Orr, Stewart, pen).
BIRMINGHAM (1) 2 (Whatmore, van Mierlo) 22,512
West Ham: Parkes, Lampard, Brush (Neighbour), Bonds, Stewart, Orr, Van der Elst, Goddard, Cross, Brooking, Pike.
Birmingham: Jones, Langan, Dennis (Van den Hauwe), Curbishley, Scott, Broadhurst, van Mierlo, Whatmore, Worthington, Phillips, Handysides.

WOLVES (0) 0
MANCHESTER UTD. (0) 1 (Birtles) 22,481
Wolves: Bradshaw, Palmer, Humphreys, Atkinson, Coy, Berry, Hibbitt, Daniel, Gray, Richards, Carr (Clarke).
Man. Utd.: Bailey, Gidman, Albiston, Wilkins, Moran, Buchan, Robson, Birtles, Stapleton, Duxbury, Coppell.

IS...SCORERS... LINE-UPS

Second Division

DERBY (1) 1 (Sheridan)
CHARLTON (1) 1 (McAllister) 10,846
 Derby: Banovic, Attley, Buckley, Skivington, Sheridan, McAlle, Hector, Powell (B), Clayton, Wilson, Emson.
 Charlton: Johns, Naylor, Elliott, Mehmet, McAllister (Gritt), Phillips, Ambrose, Walsh, Hales, Berry, Robinson.

NEWCASTLE (2) 2 (Trewick, Varadi)
CARDIFF (0) 1 (Stevens) 15,049
 Newcastle: Carr, Brownlie, Saunders, Trewick, Barton, Haddock, Mills, Martin, Varadi, Wharton, Waddle.
 Cardiff: Healey, Jones, Gilbert, Maddy, Pontin, Bennett (G) (Saunders), Bennett (D), Micallef, Stevens, Kitchen Dwyer.

ROTHERHAM (1) 1 (Smith (og))
CAMBRIDGE (0) 0 7,312
 Rotherham: Mountford, Forrest, Breckin, Rhodes, Stancliffe, Green, Towner, Gow, Moore, Fern, McEwan.
 Cambridge: Key, Donaldson, Murray, Smith, Fallon, Streete, O'Neill, Spriggs, Gibbins, Reilly, Taylor (Polycarpou).

WREXHAM (0) 0
SHEFFIELD WED. (0) 1 (Bannister) 4,907
 Wrexham: Niedzwieki, Hill (Jones (S)), Jones (J), Dowman, Cegielski, Ronson, Fox, Hunt, McNeil, Buxton, Carrodus.
 Sheff. Wed.: Bolder, Sterland, Williamson, Pickering, Shirliff (Peter), Smith, Megson, Shirliff (Paul), Bannister, Pearson, Mellor.

Third Division

BRISTOL ROVERS (0) 2 (Williams (D), Stephens)
PRESTON (0) 0 5,003

CARLISLE (0) 1 (Bannon)
BRENTFORD (0) 4,042

DONCASTER (2) 4 (Snodin (G), Little, Lister, Pugh)
CHESTER (1) 3 (Henderson, Simpson, 2) 4,098

GILLINGHAM (3) 6 (White pen, Price 2, Brown (og), Bruce, Cascarino)
WIMBLEDON (1) 1 (Ketteridge, pen) 4,214

HUDDERSFIELD (2) 6 (Fletcher 2, Lillis, Hicks (og), Cowling, Stanton)
READING (0) 1 (Webb) 6,022

NEWPORT 0
LINCOLN 0 3,735

PLYMOUTH 0
SOUTHEND 0 5,058

PORTSMOUTH (2) 5 (Aizlewood, Crown, Rafferty 3)
CHESTERFIELD (1) 1 (Bonnyman) 8,046

SWINDON (1) 1 (Henry)
BURNLEY (2) 2 (Taylor, Cassidy) 4,838

WALSALL (0) 0
BRISTOL CITY (1) 1 (Newman)

Fourth Division

BLACKPOOL (1) 2 (McEwan pen, Hockaday)
MANSFIELD (3) 3 (Parkinson, Cannell, Lumby) 3,017

BOURNEMOUTH (0) 1 (Crawford)
STOCKPORT (0) 0 5,628

BURY (1) 1 (Madden)
HALIFAX (0) 1 (Ward) 3,590

HARTLEPOOL (0) 2 (Howard 2)
HEREFORD (0) 1 (Laidlaw) 1,811

PETERBOROUGH (1) 3 (Cooke 2, Clarke)
DARLINGTON (1) 1 (Stalker) 3,702

PORT VALE 0
CREWE 0 6,542

SHEFFIELD UTD. (3) 4 (Trusson, Edwards 2, Hutton)
YORK (0) 0 12,901

TRANMERE (0) 2 (Craven, Kerr)
HULL (1) 2 (Mutrie 2) 1,737

TORQUAY 0
WIGAN 0 2,524

Scottish Cup

(Fourth Round)

ABERDEEN (1) 1 (Hewitt)
CELTIC (0) 0 24,000

CLYDEBANK (0) 0
ST. MIRREN (2) 2 (Scanlon, McAvennie) 5,088

DUNDEE UTD. (1) 1 (Holt)
HIBS (0) 1 (Rae) 10,735

HEARTS (0) 0
FORFAR (0) 1 (Hancock) 5,672

KILMARNOCK (1) 3 (McGivern, Bourke 2)
ST. JOHNSTONE (0) 1 (Brogan) 2,693

QUEEN'S PARK (1) 2 (McNiven, Verrechia)
ALLOA (0) 0 1,573

RANGERS (0) 4 (Jardine 2, McAdam, Johnston)
DUMBARTON (0) 0 15,000

Scottish Premier

AIRDRIE (0) 1 (Clark)
MORTON (1) 1 (Slavin) 3,200
 Airdrie: Martin, McCluskey, Rodger, Anderson (G), Anderson (N), McKeown (McGuire), Walker (Campbell), McDonagh, Clark, Gordon, Flood.
 Morton: Baines, Hayes, Holmes, Duffy, McLaughlin, Rooney, Docherty, Houston (Busby), Hutchison, Slavin, Ritchie.

Scottish First

FALKIRK 0
DUNFERMLINE 0 1,200

HAMILTON (0) 1 (Donnelly)
MOTHERWELL (0) 0 4,039

QoS (0) 1 (Alexander)
E. STIRLING (0) 1 (Kettings) 750

Scottish Second

ARBROATH (2) 3 (Docherty, Gavin, Yule)
EAST FIFE (1) 1 (Scott) 493

CLYDE (0) 3 (Doherty, Masterton, O'Neill)
BERWICK (1) 1 (McCulloch) 544

COWDENBEATH 0
BRECHIN 0 300

MONTROSE (1) 1 (Turnbull)
STRANRAER (1) 2 (Taylor, McDonald, pen) 300

Sunday, Feb. 14

Third Division

MILLWALL (2) 5 (Horrix 2, Tagg 3)
EXETER (0) 1 (Rogers (P)) 3,628

Fourth Division

ALDERSHOT (0) 2 (French 2)
ROCHDALE (1) 2 (Cooper, Hilditch) 2,079

BRADFORD 0
SCUNTHORPE 0 5,103

NORTHAMPTON (0) 1 (Coffill)
COLCHESTER (1) 2 (Allinson, Bremner) 3,102

Scottish Cup

(Fourth Round replay)

DUNDEE (1) 3 (Ferguson, Smith, Mackie)
MEADOWBANK (0) 0 4,453

Monday, Feb. 15

Fourth Division

STOCKPORT (0) 1 (Williams)
TRANMERE (1) 1 (Bramhall) 1,934

Tuesday, Feb. 16

F.A. Cup

(Fifth Round replay)

ORIENT (0) 0
C. PALACE (1) 1 (Smillie) 10,067
 Orient: Day, Foster, Fisher, Taylor, Gray, Hallybone, Godfrey, Margerrison, Moores, Silkman (McNeil), Hughton.
 C. Palace: Barron, Hinshelwood, Boulter, Murphy (Price), Wicks, Cannon, Brooks, Smillie, Langley, Mabbitt, Hilaire.

First Division

ARSENAL (0) 1 (Rix)
MIDDLESBROUGH (0) 0 13,738
 Arsenal: Wood, Hollins, Sansom, Talbot, O'Leary, Whyte, Vaessen, Sunderland, Davis, Nicholas (Meade), Rix.
 Middlesbrough: Platt, Craggs, Bailey, Angus, Baxter, Nattrass, Cochrane, Otto, Hodgson, Ashcroft, McAndrew (Thomson).

BIRMINGHAM (1) 2 (van Mierlo, Worthington)
SUNDERLAND (0) 0 10,776
 Birmingham: Jones, Langan, Van den Hauwe, Curbishley, Scott, Broadhurst, Handysides, Whatmore, Worthington, Phillips, van Mierlo.
 Sunderland: Siddall, Nicholl, Hinnigan (McCoist), Hindmarch, Clarke, Elliott, Buckley, Venison, Cooke, Munro, Cummins.

COVENTRY (1) 1 (Hateley)
NOTTS COUNTY (2) 5 (Goodwin, Harkouk, Mair, Christie, Chiedoie) 10,750
 Coventry: Biyth, Thomas, Barnes, Francis, Dyson, Gillespie, Bodak, Bradford, Hateley, Thompson, Hunt.
 Notts Co.: Avramovic, Benjamin, O'Brien, Goodwin, Kilcline, Richards, Chiedoie, Harkouk (Christie), McCulloch, Hooks, Mair.

IPSWICH (3) 5 (Brazil 5)
SOUTHAMPTON (1) 2 (Puckett, Keegan) 20,264

Ipswich: Cooper, Burley, McCall, Mills, Osman, Stegales, Wark, Muhren, D'Avray, Brazil, Gates.
 Southampton: Katalinic, Golac (Lawrence), Holmes, Baker, Nicholl, Waldron, Keegan, Channon, Puckett, Armstrong, Ball.

SWANSEA (0) 2 (James (L), Curtis)
LIVERPOOL (0) 0 22,604
 Swansea: Davies, Stanley, Marustik, Irwin, Kennedy, Rajkovic, Curtis, James (R), James (L), Thompson, Charles.
 Liverpool: Grobbelaar, Neal, Lawrenson, Kennedy, Whelan, Hansen, Daiglish, Lee, Rush, McDermott, Souness.

WOLVES 0
NOTT.M. FOREST 0 11,191
 Wolves: Bradshaw, Palmer, Humphrey, Atkinson, Gallagher, Coy, Hibbitt, Daniel, Gray, Richards, Clarke.
 Nottm. Forest: Shilton, Anderson, Gunn, Gray, Young, Needham, Mills, Wallace, Ward, Bowyer, Robertson.

BIG MATCHES OF THE DAY

Saturday, March 13th

Arsenal v Ipswich

IPSWICH have a good record at High-bury in recent years having won four and drawn two of their last eight First Division visits. It is true that last season Arsenal should have won comfortably in this game and it took a late penalty by Ipswich's John Wark to enable the visitors to force a draw, but in that game Ipswich proved that they are prepared to fight to the last gasp.

This season Ipswich already have a 2-1 win to their credit over Arsenal at Portman Road, and if they can pull off another victory on Saturday they will complete their first League double over The Gunners since 1976-77 when they shattered the Londoners 4-1 at High-bury, all of the goals coming in the second-half.

Aston Villa v Wolves

BACK in the days just after the War when Wolves were a power in the land they brought plenty of excitement to Villa Park. There was that shock Villa victory in 1948-49 when the great Trevor Ford hammered four goals into the visitor's goal in a 5-1 victory, and the next season when the game went according to form and the mighty Wolves won 4-1 before a 70,000 crowd at Villa Park!

Coming up to date Villa have won their last three First Division games with Wolves who are still smarting from the 3-0 beating they took from Villa when they visited Molineux earlier this season. Indeed, Wolves have only beaten Villa once in their last seven First Division meetings.

Nott'm Forest v Man. City

MANCHESTER CITY have won only one of their last dozen League clashes with Forest and that was at Maine Road in 1979-80 when Deyna got the only goal of the game. Last season City were beaten 3-2 at Forest's ground and the year before they were hammered 4-0 with Trevor Francis getting a hat-trick.

If City can pull off a win on Saturday it will be their first League victory on Forest's ground since September, 1970 when Mike Doyle got their winner — again the only goal of the game.

West Ham v Notts County

NOTTS COUNTY were hammered 4-0 in their visit to Upton Park last season with the home side getting three goals in a hectic second-half. Perhaps, therefore, County's prospects do not look too bright for Saturday's visit to The Hammers but they can take heart from the fact that it was only two seasons ago that they won 2-1 on this ground with goals by Trevor Christie and Brian Stubbs.

That victory was their first after a run of five defeats at Upton Park, including a 6-1 beating in September, 1955 when the home side's scorers included such popular Hammers as Billy Dare and Harry Hooper with a couple apiece.



West Ham (dark shirts) fought an entertaining 2-2 draw with Birmingham.

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Liverpool v. West Ham
- 1980 LIVERPOOL — CHAMPIONS AGAIN
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Nottingham Forest v. Malmö and Hamburg
- 1980 HAMMER HEROS
West Ham v. Arsenal
- 1980 LEAGUE CUP FINAL
Wolves' Cup
- 1979 F.A. CUP FINAL
Arsenal v. Man. Utd
- 1979 LEAGUE CUP FINAL
Nott'ham F. v. Southampton
- 1978 EUROPEAN CUP FINAL
Liverpool v. Bruges
- 1978 F.A. CUP FINAL
Ipswich v. Arsenal
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- 1977 LEAGUE CUP FINAL
Villa's Hat-trick
- 1976 UEFA CUP
Liverpool v. Bruges
- 1976 LEAGUE CUP FINAL
Man. City v. Newcastle
- 1975 CUP FINAL
Hail To The Hammers!
- 1974 F.A. CUP FINAL
Liverpool's Cup
- 1973 F.A. CUP FINAL
Sunderland's Cup
- 1973 LEAGUE CUP FINAL
Spurs v. Norwich
- 1972 F.A. CUP FINAL
Leeds v. Arsenal
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Salute to Stoke!
- 1971 CUP FINAL
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- 1971 EURO CUP WINNERS
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Liverpool's 1-0 victory over Real Madrid for the 1981 European Cup. Col. 60 mins. VHS ONLY: £25.00.

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1968 EUROPEAN CUP FINAL

Full-length b/w coverage of classic. Manchester Utd 4, Benfica 1. VHS/BETAMAX: £35.00.

1960 EUROPEAN CUP FINAL

Full-length b/w coverage of classic. Real Madrid 7, Eintracht 3. VHS/BETAMAX: £29.95.

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Also col sound 200ft
- * 1976 S'hampton 1, Man. Utd. 0.....200ft
Also col sound 200ft
- * 1975 West Ham 2, Fulham 0.....200ft
Also col sound 200ft
- * 1974 Liverpool 3, N'castle 0.....200ft
- * 1973 Sunderland 1, Leeds 0.....200ft
- * 1973 Semi: Leeds 1, Wolves 0.....100ft
- * 1972 Leeds 1, Arsenal 0.....100ft
- * 1971 Arsenal 2, Liverpool 1.....200ft
- 1970 Chelsea 2, Leeds 2.....100ft
- 1970 Chelsea 2, Leeds 1.....100ft
- 1969 Man. City 1, Leicester 0.....100ft
- 1968 WBA 1, Everton 0.....200ft
- 1967 Spurs 2, Chelsea 1.....200ft
- 1966 Everton 3, Sheff. Wed. 2.....300ft
- 1965 Liverpool 2, Leeds 1.....200ft
- 1964 West Ham 3, Preston 2.....200ft
- 1963 Man. Utd. 3, Leicester 1.....200ft
- 1962 Spurs 3, Burnley 1.....100ft

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Also 400ft col sound
- * 1977 L'pool 3, Borussia MGB 1.....200ft/300ft
Also 200ft/300ft col sound
- 1968 Man. Utd. 4, Benfica 1.....200ft/400ft
Also b/w sound 200ft
- 1968 Man. Utd. 3, Madrid 3 (semi-final).....200ft
- 1967 Celtic 2, Inter Milan 1.....200ft/400ft
- 1966 Man. Utd. 5, Benfica 1.....200ft
- 1960 R. Madrid 7, Eintracht 3.....200ft/400ft
- WORLD CUP
- * 1978 Argentina 3, Holland 1.....200ft/400ft
Also col sound 400ft
- * 1978 Scotland 3, Holland 2.....200ft/400ft
Also col sound 400ft
- * 1978 Argentina 2, France 1.....200ft/400ft
Also col sound 400ft
- * 1978 Holland 2, Italy 1.....200ft/400ft
Also col sound 400ft
- * 1978 Holland 2, West Germany 2.....200ft/400ft
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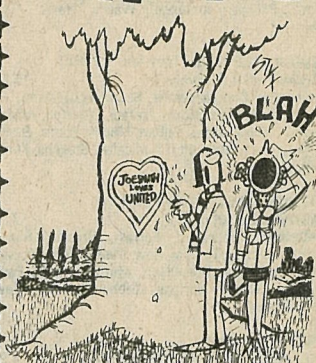
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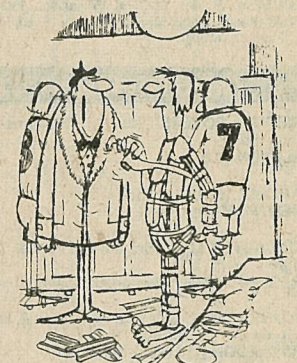
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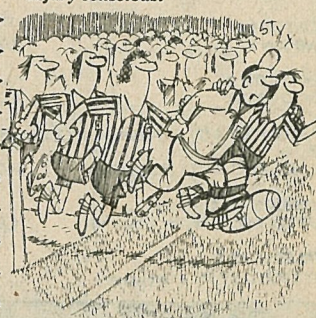
FOOTBALL FUNNIES



"Now what's the matter with you?"



"That little kick you had last week seems to have made you a little injury conscious."



"That's the problem when you rely on one player so much..."



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KEEGAN AND RUSH

Liverpool's Ian Rush shoots for goal against Ipswich.

The players' choice



KEVIN Keegan of Southampton and Liverpool's Ian Rush will be named Players' Player and Young Player of the Year at the Professional Footballers Association annual dinner in London this Sunday (March 14th).

It's odds-on that the strikers will win their awards by a large margin, succeeding John Wark (Ipswich Town) and Gary Shaw (Aston Villa), last year's winners.

It has been a tremendous season for the England captain, who has already broken his personal goal-scoring record as Southampton soared to the top of Division One.

Free of the injuries that hampered him last season, Keegan has been an inspiration to those around him and Ron Greenwood must be hoping the player can maintain this form through to the

World Cup Finals.

Ian Rush, the young Welsh striker, started the season with just seven League appearances for Liverpool to his credit following his £300,000 transfer from Chester in May, 1980.

When the European Champions were showing signs of wear and tear, especially in attack, Bob Paisley drafted in Rush and Ronnie Whelan and over the past three months Ian has been a revelation.

Apart from scoring himself, he has helped Kenny Dalglish find his goal touch again and from looking

finished in December, Liverpool are now favourites to win the Championship.

Other contenders for the Players' Player award are Ipswich Town's Scottish international striker Alan Brazil; Manchester City's £1m striker, Trevor Francis; Cyrille Regis of West Brom, who won his first England cap last month; Liverpool skipper Graeme Souness and Glenn Hoddle, the Spurs midfielder who has many admirers inside the game and on the terraces.

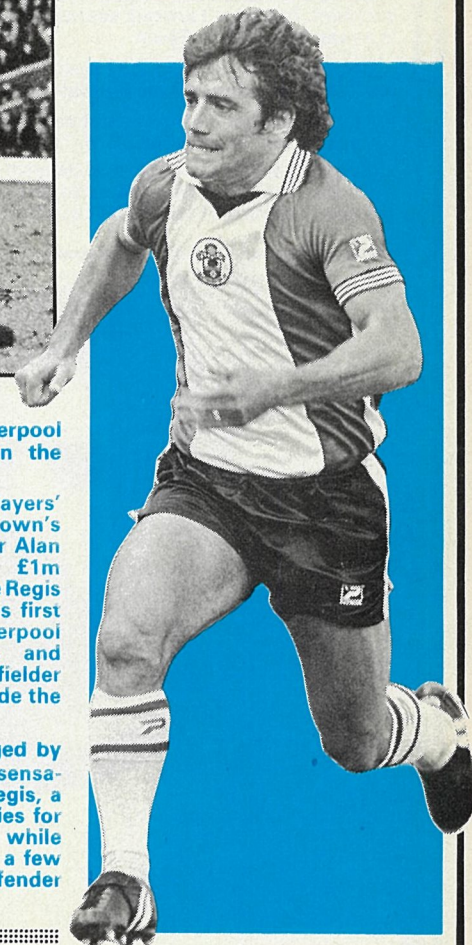
Ian Rush will be challenged by Southampton's goalscoring sensation Steve Moran; Cyrille Regis, a previous winner, still qualifies for the Young Player award; while Ronnie Whelan will pick up a few votes, as will Ipswich defender

Steve McCall and Manchester City's Tommy Caton.

But all the signs are that Kevin Keegan and Ian Rush will be honoured by their fellow professionals at the London Hilton this weekend.

The players' First Division team could be:

SHILTON
BATSON O'LEARY HANSEN STATHAM
HODDLE ROBSON SOUNESS
FRANCIS STAPLETON KEEGAN



Last year's winners give their tips

'SOUNESS HAS THE LOT'

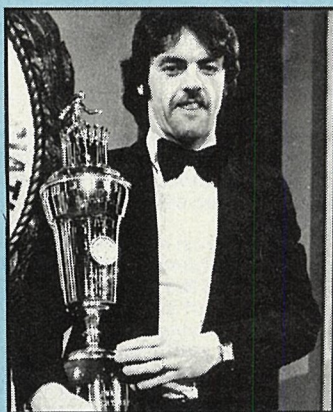
— JOHN WARK

LAST year's Players' Player of the Year, high-scoring Ipswich midfielder man John Wark, has gone for a fellow Scot to succeed him.

"Graeme Souness gets my vote," says John. "I believe he is the best all-round midfielder player in the country and the main reason why Liverpool put their poor start to the season behind them."

"Graeme can do the lot. He has tremendous vision, his passing is good over short or long distances and he combines skill with aggression."

"He starts most of Liverpool's attacks and when he sits in front of the back four he does a good job cutting out the supply to opposing strikers."



"He always looks well in control of any situation. He seems to have plenty of time, he never gives the ball away. Since he took over the Liverpool captaincy I would say he has become an even better player. In fact, the complete player."

ASTON Villa star Gary Shaw admits: "It's a shame I haven't been able to match the goalscoring form that prompted my fellow professionals to vote for me."

Since the England Under-21 star

'NO FUSS McCALL SO COOL'

— GARY SHAW

to a Portman Road star.

"Steve McCall has done extremely well to establish himself in a side chasing honours but handicapped by injuries," says Shaw.

"Whenever I've seen Steve he's been cool and composed on the ball. I also like the way he's moved in between defence and midfield easily with no fuss."

"If he continues his progress he could make a really big name for himself."

"Although I've voted for Steve, I believe either Steve Moran or Ian Rush will be my successor."

"I rate them both very highly. They're exciting to watch and have determination to succeed."



ANDRAS TOROCSIK

HUNGARY

THE "George Best of Hungarian football" is skilful, fast and swerves his way down the left wing past defender after defender.

An idol at 19, he was expected to perform miracles in the 1978 World Cup, but foolishly got himself sent-off in the opening game against Argentina.

Since then he's been suspended for indiscipline and banned after a drink-drive car accident. But now Torocsik seems to have matured into a valuable team member and is a man to watch in Spain.

Born on May 1st, 1955, he began with BVSC in the Second Division, aiming to imitate his childhood hero Florian Albert.

At 19 he moved to his current club, Ujpest Dozsa, and made his First Division debut in October, 1974.

Soon amongst the goals and delighting the crowds with his solo skills, Torocsik was called into the national team in 1976, and could have doubled his current tally of 30 caps but for all his disciplinary problems.



World
Cup stars
to watch



JUNIOR BRAZIL

ONLY the Brazilians seem to have the knack of producing superstar full-backs like Carlos Alberto and Francisco Marinho. And the latest is exciting Flamengo left-back Junior whose breathtaking skills and cheeky backheeled passing bring crowds to their feet.

Junior's real name is a mouth-bending Leovegildo Lins Gema and his birthdate reads June 29th, 1954.

Like most Rio kids, he played beach football with an outfit called Juventus, but only began to take football seriously in 1973 when he was studying to be a vet and playing in midfield for the Flamengo youth team.

In a vital game the left-back was stretchered off; Junior dropped back to take his place, and has stayed at left-back ever since.

"But I still feel like a midfielder," he insists. "I believe in playing creative football right from the back."

Junior has picked up trophy after trophy with Flamengo, including a sensational 1981, when the red-and-blacks became Champions of South America and thrashed Liverpool for the Intercontinental crown.

A sensation in Brazil's 1981 European tour, Junior aims to add to his 30 caps in Spain, as well as confirming his reputation as the best left-back in the world.

SHOOT!

**KEVIN
O'CALLAGHAN**
IPSWICH TOWN



SHOOT!

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TAKE A BREAK IT'S QUIZ TIME

1. Peter Ward returned to his former club recently and scored the only goal of the game. Against which club was the Nottingham Forest striker on target?

2. Can you name the 16-year-old winger who made his first team debut for Tottenham against Manchester City at White Hart Lane last month?

3. How many players made their international debuts during the England v Northern Ireland British Championship game at Wembley recently?

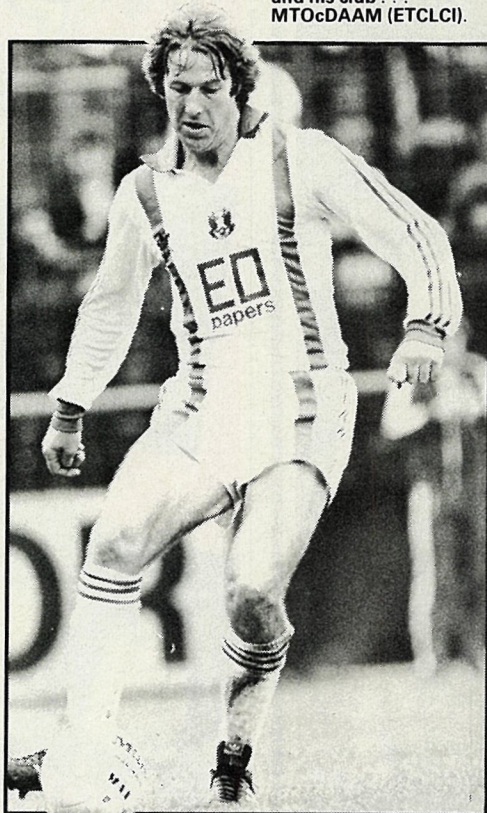
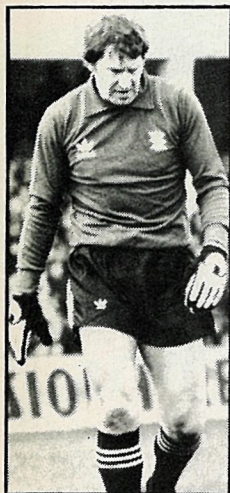
4. When was the last time that Everton won the F.A. Cup?

5. Ipswich Town and England striker Paul Mariner began his League career in the West country with which club?

6. Is it true that Crystal Palace's Jerry Murphy is a full Northern Ireland international?

7. If Ivan Katalinic saved a penalty from Neil Whatmore... which two clubs would be in opposition?

8. Arsenal 'keeper George Wood is an



international. Did he go to Argentina with the Scottish squad for the 1978 World Cup Finals?

9. Birmingham signed goalkeeper Roger Jones (left) from which Second Division club recently?

10. Which British clubs play at (a) Palmerston Park, (b) Fellows Park, (c) Millmoor and (d) Ochilview Park?

11. How many international caps did Bradford City's player-manager Roy McFarland gain for England?

12. Former Manchester City and Stoke City defender Mike Doyle is playing in the Second Division with which club?

13. Rearrange the jumbled letters to find the name of one of Britain's top defenders and his club... MTOcDAAM (ETCLCI).

14. Former West Ham defender Tommy Taylor (above) was sacked by which Second Division club recently and then re-instated?

15. Gerry Francis was transferred from Queens Park Rangers to Coventry City recently for around £150,000. In between his two spells at Loftus Road, the former England captain played 59 League games for which London club?

ANSWERS

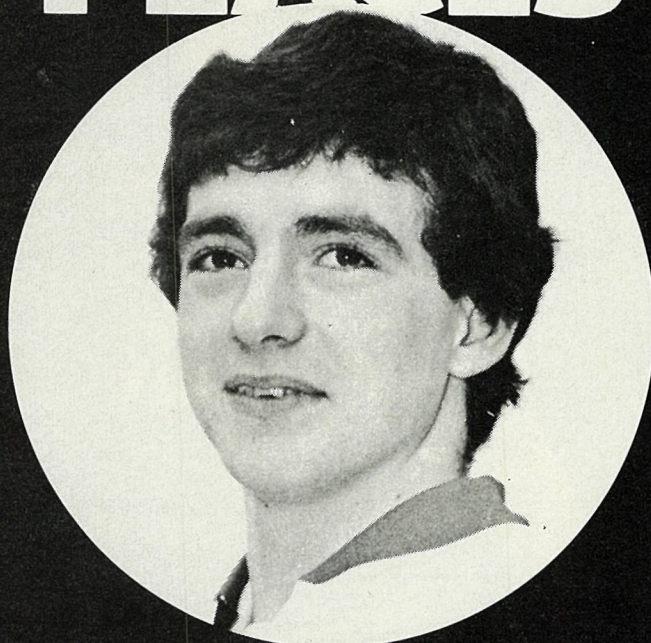
1. Brighton. 2. Alistair Dick. 3. Two — Steve Foster (Brighton) and Cyril Regis (W.B.A.). 4. 1966. 5. Plymouth Argyle. 6. No — he is an Eire international. 7. Southampton against Birmingham. 8. No. 9. Derby. 10. (a) Queen of the South, (b) Walsall, (c) Rotherham, (d) Stenhousemuir. 11. 28. 12. Bolton. 13. Tom McAdam (Celtic). 14. Orient. 15. Crystal Palace.

ON THE BALL ANSWERS

ACROSS:— (3) Golac. (4) John. (6) Trap. (11) Ivory. (13) Thomas. (15) Allan. (17) Ado. (18) Tunks. (20) Hat. (21) Field. (22) Cooper. (23) Ossie. (24) Ring. (26) Dens. (27) Pleat.

DOWN:— (1) Corn. (2) Hart. (4) Jan Moller. (5) Hoist. (7) Roy. (8) Paul Hooks. (9) Souness. (10) Chair. (12) Pates. (14) Ode. (16) Lap. (19) Scene. (23) Own. (25) Gold. (26) Dean.

McSTAY GOING PLACES



WHEN Billy McNeill took over as manager of Celtic in the summer of 1978 his first signing for the Parkhead club was a 13-year-old schoolboy.

His name was a famous Celtic one — McStay — which is why McNeill is so pleased to see 17-year-old Paul playing in the Premier Division side.

His great great uncle was Willie McStay, who played for Celtic and Scotland in the 1920's and there is little doubt that Paul will carry on the family tradition.

Already he has played for his country at schools' level and at all the different youth levels. Currently he is skipper of the Under-18 team and McNeill has predicted that he will play for Scotland's senior side.

Delighted

The youngster, though, talks delightedly of his success in reaching the Celtic first team.

"This is all I have dreamed about ever since I was a wee boy," he says.

"Honestly I didn't think that promotion would come so soon. I thought it would take me a long time to break into the first team..."

But McNeill had shrewdly watched his progress. Even before the start of the season the Celtic boss was predicting that McStay would make the jump from the reserves into the League side.

He said then: "The boy is telling me by his displays out on the field

that he is ready. I won't be able to hold him back. He has the ability and he will prove that."

Then he added: "Remember, too, Paul has been playing for the Under 18 youth team when he is still eligible for the Under 16 team."

"At that age that takes a bit of doing yet Paul takes it all in his stride."

"He is used to playing against and with players older and more experienced than himself."

The teenager did settle into the team and showed his class with a goal in the Celtic Premier Division win over Aberdeen at Pittodrie.

"That helped my confidence," he said. "It's fine when people tell you you are playing well but scoring gives you a boost."

"The pace of the game has seemed a bit faster obviously but I think I've adjusted OK."

"Obviously my ambitions would include going on and playing for Scotland after getting schoolboy and youth caps. But there is plenty of time for that."

"All I do want is to be successful with Celtic first of all and then let things take their course from there."

"I'm where I've always wanted to play football and that is very important to me. So far things couldn't have gone better."

McStay, in fact, has had a glamorous introduction to the football life.

Next season, all going well, he will be in Europe with Celtic. It goes without saying that this is one youngster who has a future at the top laid out in front of him already.



'HANDS OFF WALSH'

warns Charlton manager Alan Mullery

CHARLTON boss Alan Mullery has a short, sharp message for clubs eyeing up his teenage wonder boy Paul Walsh.

"Forget it. You can't afford him. The way things are in the game just now there is not enough money in football to buy him," booms Mullery.

That shows just how highly Mullery rates the 19-year-old Walsh — widely regarded as the hottest young property in the game.

Mullery knows he is sitting on a gold mine. And he has no intention of letting the prospectors move in.

"I'm under no pressure to sell — and I have no intention of doing it," he says.

"This club had a bit of a history of selling their best players and I told the chairman that had to stop when I took over in the summer.

"Walsh was a bit unsettled when I arrived. So the first thing I did was to offer him an improved three-year contract, which he was happy to sign.

"Naturally enough the lad wants First Division football. That's perfectly understandable and I'd be suspicious of anyone that did not. We all hope he can get that with Charlton in the not-too-distant future.

"Paul has a marvellous natural talent and excites me more than any other youngster playing today.

"He has improved a lot in the time I have been here and if he maintains this progress there is no limit to what he can achieve.

"He is an instinctive player, who does things you don't expect from him. That's great, because it makes it very difficult to mark him and plan against him.

"We are working on him all the time, in a bid to get even more from him. He is responsive — proving more than willing to listen and learn.

"We are talking to him about different aspects of the game that no one has ever discussed with him before. He does some things that are a real delight and make me drool.

"He does others that I'm not so happy about and would like to erase from his game. When we get the two together we will have a hell of a player on our hands."

Walsh has made a tremendous impression since joining Charlton, his local club, straight from school. He was born just down the road, at Abbey Wood — where he still lives.

He grew up with Charlton in his blood and as well as being their star player is their biggest supporter.

Nothing would please him more than to go into the First Division with them. But if, eventually, he decides he must move on to better himself he will do it only with the utmost regret.

"Obviously nothing is forever and if the time came when the lad felt he had to move on I would not stand in his way. I'm the first one to encourage progress," says Mullery.

"But it will need a dramatic improvement in football's finances for someone to find the money needed to buy him. I look at strikers who have played against us that have cost a fortune.

'England Cert'

"They are not remotely in Paul's class and I'll be very surprised — and disappointed — if he does not go right to the top. He is a cert to play for England."

Those views are echoed by England Youth team manager John Cartwright — another who has played a big part in Walsh's development.

"A tremendous prospect — the sort of talent we are looking for to help England compete with the best in the world," says Cartwright.

"That's just what Paul wants to be — the best in the world. He wants to be a great player and never stops working at it."

"He showed how keen he was when I had him at the regular get-togethers I hold for England Youth players at Lilleshall. He was always, without exception, the last one to come off the training field.

"It's no good having the talent if you have not got the enthusiasm to go with it. If you think you can achieve anything without working at the game you have no chance.

"Paul has the ability — lots and lots of it. And he has the keen attitude that is so vital. He is never content to stand still and wants to get better all the time."

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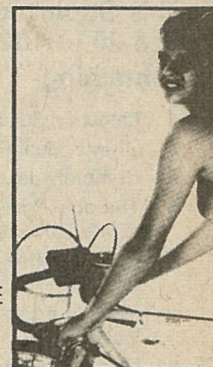
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THE campaign to save professional football from a dangerously accelerating decline has begun with a vengeance.

Not since professional soccer burst on the scene towards the end of Queen Victoria's reign has the game been more closely examined than it is at the moment.

The hope is that the combined efforts of League management officials, the clubs and commercial enterprises, brimming with money-making ideas, will combine to cure the rotten sickness that has

SPECIAL REPORT

threatened to destroy our national game less than 100 years after its birth.

The message to those charged with the responsibility of rescuing the game is simple: the time for talking is over; swift and decisive action is vital.

But as attendances dip alarmingly and more and more clubs face the bankruptcy that has crippled Hull and Halifax, the fear is that the schemes launched in a bid to restore soccer to the exciting spectacle it once presented the fans will not go far enough to halt the decline.

The general consensus of opinion after a two-day crisis seminar of League chairmen held at Solihull last month was that

Coventry's chairman and BBC soccer presenter, have been given a mandate to produce their recommendations by the start of next season.

Their aim will be to ban the irritating aspects of the game which drive fans away. They will study time-wasting, particularly by goalkeepers; persistent use of the offside trap; the professional foul; unnecessary back-passing; and tactics that create a "midfield jungle".

"The product must be more appealing," insists Jimmy Hill. "If we can restore entertainment by changes in the laws, we may stop the downward trend and keep players and managers in jobs."

The Football League itself has been instructed to examine players' contracts; a new system for the payment of transfer fees to prevent clubs from spending vast sums on the "never never" and



SOCCER

once again they had come up with a set of well intentioned proposals for the game's survival without committing themselves boldly enough to solve the fundamental problems.

But there is no denying their determination to stop the rot.

Ernie Clay, Fulham's chairman, spoke for the entire gathering when he said pointedly at the end of the debate: "We have always expected the customers (fans) to come to us, but at last we have moved into the 20th Century."

"We are going to educate all strata of society to the fact that football is no longer a cloth cap industry. We are going to apologise to the public and say it is not our fault that the toilets are frozen. It was because our predecessors did nothing about it."

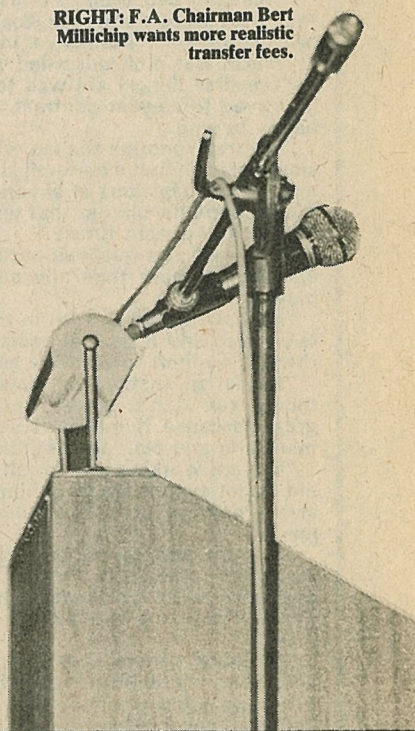
The two men given the job of performing a miracle are two of soccer's most ambitious and respected ambassadors, Sir Matt Busby and Jimmy Hill.

Their brief is to produce a blueprint for major law changes which will make the game more attractive and win back the fans to deserted terraces.

Sir Matt, former Manchester United manager, and Hill,

ABOVE: Everton's Adrian Heath is the costliest player this year.

RIGHT: F.A. Chairman Bert Millichip wants more realistic transfer fees.



taking years to pay up; a two-year ban on signing players from outside the EEC countries; the points system; and changes in the law, including the possible introduction of the 35-yard offside rule as employed in America.

The League is also planning a £5 million advertising campaign next season to boost attendances. The League reveal that they are close to agreement with a company to sponsor the Football League, and have already agreed a £2.25 million sponsorship for the League Cup with the National Dairy Council.

Another proposal is to form a National Football League Supporters' Club aimed at attracting 100,000 members each paying £3 to join.

So that is the package offered for soccer's survival. It is a start — but does it go far enough to fill those empty terraces?

These are the aspects of soccer's decline that alarm the game's



administrators and clubs:—

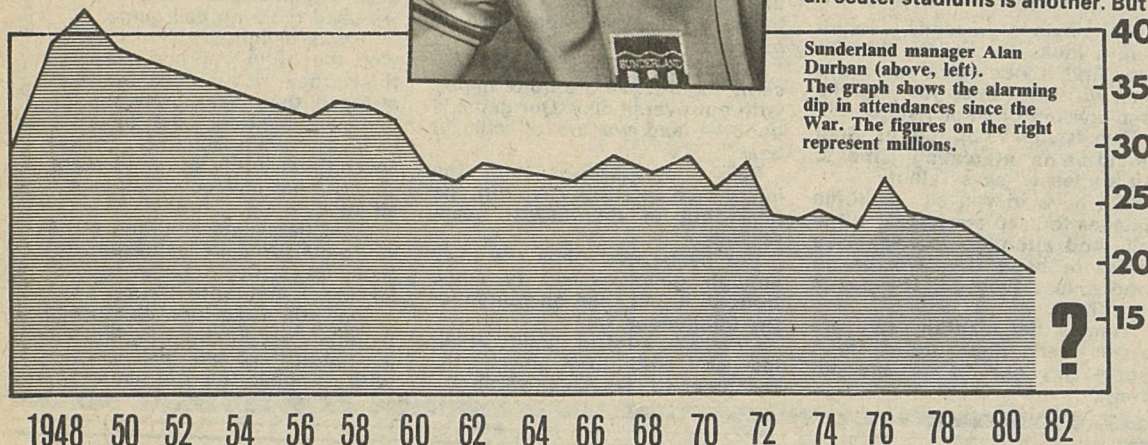
ATTENDANCES

AS the chairman's seminar were assembling on Sunday, February 21, they were aware that 81,240 fewer fans had watched soccer the previous day than on the corresponding Saturday last season. Thirty nine million fans watched football in 1950-51, 18 million more than in 1980-81. Attendances are certain to dip below the 20 million mark for the first time ever this season.

HOOLIGANISM

FOOTBALL'S saddest sickness. There are pleasing reports that it is being conquered, but the minority continue to dominate newspaper headlines. Greater police presence on the terraces (costing clubs more money) is one answer and all-seater stadiums is another. But

Sunderland manager Alan Durban (above, left). The graph shows the alarming dip in attendances since the War. The figures on the right represent millions.



spend £1 million on a player, he insists. The clubs, it seems, are heeding his warning. The £700,000 Everton paid Stoke for Adrian Heath is the most money that has changed hands this year and many players have changed clubs for less than £200,000. The £125,000 Norwich paid WBA for John Deehan illustrates the commonsense that is prevailing as clubs fight for survival.

PLAYERS' WAGES

MANY clubs want a return to the maximum wage system. Manchester City's manager John Bond punches home the message: "If players are to have any true feelings for the future of soccer, they must have constructive views on what they are paid. If they don't, it is inevitable they will drain clubs of all the money they possess. Everyone, directors, managers and players alike, have got to pull in the purse strings." The Sunday Mirror revealed that some top stars were earning £1,200 a week, while the game faces ruin. More than 50 First Division players, including Peter Shilton and Kevin Keegan, earn more than the Prime Minister's £27,825 salary. The newspaper obtained the information from a secret report compiled by Football League Secretary Graham Kelly. Even some Fourth Division players were drawing between £10,000 and £15,000 a year, and one earned between £15,000 and £25,000. The message is clear, unless a transfer ceiling is fixed and realistic wage levels introduced, the game will be

CRISIS -the way ahead!

Kevin Keegan (right), probably the highest paid player in Britain.



there is little clubs can do with the thugs who cause trouble outside grounds.

TRANSFERS

A CRAZY transfer market where clubs spend more on players than they can afford is a major concern. Bert Millichip, F.A. Chairman, warns: "I say to all chairmen that unless they match income with expenditure, a lot more clubs will be in trouble." His club, West Bromwich Albion, would never

bankrupt. Sunderland, half a million in the red, are showing the way by pruning their wage bill. Manager Alan Durban has cut his first team squad to 18 by selling seven players and is filling the reserve team with youngsters.

EX-MANAGER'S LAMENT

TONY WADDINGTON, former Stoke City boss and one of soccer's most respected citizens, urges the introduction of a European Super League offering such exciting spectacles as Manchester United v Real Madrid. "It's the sort of magic the sport needs," says Waddington, sacked by Crewe last July. Third and Fourth Division clubs should go part-time to save themselves from financial ruin.

THE FUTURE

CAN soccer survive the biggest crisis in its history? Clubs have exhibited a remarkable capacity for survival in the past. Yet, alarmingly, they have tended to sweep important problems under the carpet. The climate of today's concern suggests that enough is enough, and the game will tackle and conquer the threat to its future.



BRIAN Talbot looks forward to welcoming his former team-mates this Saturday . . . with a hiding!

Talbot's present club, Arsenal, face his former one, Ipswich, at Highbury in one of the day's top attractions.

And although he still keeps in touch with friends at Portman Road, that will count for nothing.

'GUNNING' FOR OLD PALS

For obvious reasons, Talbot always looks forward to this fixture. And it has extra spice this time, with both sides going for the First Division Championship.

"This is vital to both of us. So it should be an interesting game, to say the least," says Talbot.

"We have to win all our home matches to keep our hopes on the boil. And although Ipswich have games in hand they will be no good unless they get the points from them.

"Games between the two are usually very tight and I don't expect this one to be any different."

There are cynics who claim that EVERY game that Arsenal take part in is very tight, because of the way they play.

The Gunners have certainly had their share of adverse publicity recently — with Liverpool's boss Bob Paisley and even their own chairman, Denis Hill-Wood, slamming them for negative play.

But Talbot insists the criticism is unjust and claims that Arsenal are by no means as boring as some people try to make out.

"Obviously the lack of goals concerns us. But we are quite happy with our overall play. Our game is good — and we are difficult to beat."

Talbot sympathises with the injury problems that have torn the heart out of the Ipswich team recently.

But he believes they still have enough good players to come through it and keep on course for the Championship.

"There is a lot of quality about Ipswich and they have the resources to carry them through a

sticky patch. So I expect them to shrug off the loss of three internationals — Terry Butcher, Frans Thijssen and Paul Mariner," he claims.

"Mich D'Avary seems to be making a tremendous impact as understudy to Mariner. And that does not surprise me in the least.

"I have watched Mich, a 20-year-old South African, playing for the reserves on my occasional visits back home and it was soon clear he had the ability to make the grade.

"I'm in my fourth season with Arsenal and things have changed a lot at Ipswich since I left them.

'Controlled'

"Their two Dutchmen — Thijsen and Arnold Muhren — have largely been responsible for that. They play a more controlled and fluent style now, whereas in the days when I was at Portman Road we used the long ball game.

"I was delighted when Ipswich won the UEFA Cup last season. I think they richly deserved that after all they have done for the game and the trends they have set.

"They have qualified for Europe seven times in the last eight years. That is a hell of a record and says it all about them.

"And their determination to do well seems to have increased after those recent Cup setbacks against Liverpool and Shrewsbury.

"I'm still a big Ipswich fan and would be delighted if they finished second in the table this season — with us above them of course!"

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'ENGLAND'S BEST



-that's Kev and Trev!'

ENGLAND'S attacking spearhead for the World Cup Finals should consist of Kevin Keegan and Trevor Francis.

I fully expect them to form England's two-pronged strike force for the opening game against France in Bilbao on Wednesday, June 16.

The French, inspired by the St. Etienne midfield star Michel Platini and winger Dominique Rocheteau, could pose a serious threat to England's chances of making progress in the tournament, but I'm confident that Kevin and Trevor can light the fires up front to see England into the Second Round.

I've considered them to be England's most potent strikers for a long time. Their mastery of Northern Ireland's defence in last month's 4-0 trouncing confirmed that belief.

Kevin hoisted his season's tally to 23 by heading Trevor's masterly cross beyond Pat Jennings. That is World Cup form.

Lethal

And I have one word for Trevor's finishing — lethal. Twelve goals for Manchester City by the end of last month and two for Forest before his departure illustrate my man's threat to defences.

They should line-up together in Spain and with Paul Mariner, and possibly the ever improving Cyrille Regis, in the wings, England will present more problems than they might have considered possible in the qualifying games.

Now for another sticky problem Ron Greenwood has to solve. Who is his best goalkeeper? He says he

JOHN BOND
WRITES
EXCLUSIVELY
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will make the choice between Ray Clemence and Peter Shilton before the French game.

I go for Shilton. The Forest goalkeeper gets my vote in a desperately close contest — and don't forget that Manchester City and England's Joe Corrigan must be the best third string 'keeper in the history of international football.

Ron's decision to employ a sweeper against the Irish is a fascinating departure from England's normal pattern. Ray Wilkins looked confident in the role and I look forward to seeing them employ this system in Spain.

My only observation is that possibly the wrong man has been given the job. Bryan Robson's greater all-round talents are better suited to the role than Ray's, and I'm not criticising Wilkins.

Robson's sounder defensive qualities make him eminently more suitable. Indeed, Ron himself has



Kevin Keegan (above), Trevor Francis (right) and Glenn Hoddle (left) — three to watch in Spain.

played Bryan in the sweeper role alongside Phil Thompson.

I'll reserve judgment on the use of a sweeper until I've seen it employed again by England, but it seems to me that Ron has come up with a method of play that could surprise a few in Spain.

England's dickie centre-half position has probably encouraged him to try a sweeper. I've always had a liking for Alvin Martin, but injury and defensive problems at West Ham have been a problem for the youngster.

And don't write-off Phil Thompson. Ron won't worry about Phil's loss of a first team place at Anfield. He's England calibre and that's that.

I'm hopeful also that Ron will give Glenn Hoddle an extended run. The boy's magnificence outweighs any inconsistency. Glenn needs working on behind the scenes at England camps. He lacks confidence at England level, possibly because he's



got no close chums alongside him as he has at Spurs.

Glenn appears to be a sensitive fellow, needing time to settle. It might surprise people to know that the greatest players need reassurance if their form slumps. Trevor Francis has received more than one comforting chat from me at Maine Road.

Trevor returns to Nottingham Forest with Manchester City this weekend. I'm hoping he will turn on a special performance. The game has a special significance for me also, for I hope to renew my acquaintance with Justin Fashanu, my striker in our Norwich days.

In Justin's defence after his transfer-listing by Forest, I'd like to say that he is a much better player than some would have you believe. You don't become a bad player overnight.

John Bond



IAN Greaves inherited one of the most thankless tasks in soccer when he took over at crisis club Wolves last month.

And just how much of a fight Greaves has on his hands was soon made clear to him when his new club were thrashed 6-1 at Tottenham in his first game in charge.

Yet he still rates the job as the best of his 13-year managerial career.

"This is one of football's great clubs," he says. "Nothing but the best will be good enough."

"There are those who tell me it's

better to drop a Division now and then come back with more confidence in a season or two. That's rubbish.

"The First Division is everything. People who express that view should remember this — they are talking to a manager who came close to considering himself a failure at Bolton because we twice missed promotion in consecutive seasons by the skin of our teeth!

"Every moment at Bolton revolved around reaching the First Division. Every moment at Wolves this season will be dedicated to staying here."

It is the third time that Greaves, a man who lives for football, has

been in the First Division. First in charge at Huddersfield; then Bolton; now at troubled Wolves.

It is a record that only a handful can match — Brian Clough has been just as much in demand over a similar span of years; so has Bobby Robson. But few managers can match the consistency of Greaves, just as few can match his qualities.

His start at Molineux was daunting. First the furious row over his departure from Oxford; then the six goal drubbing at Spurs.

So is dressing room spirit as low as the club's position in the table?

"No, strangely enough, it isn't too bad at all; I had expected much worse after everything that had happened before my arrival," he says.

"Of course, no one likes to be beaten by half a dozen goals, but no player at Molineux is dreading

faces. In fact, with things as they are, selling is more likely. So it is a matter of restoring confidence and conviction.

"We will have to play the percentages. The first part of the job must be to make us hard to beat. If that means sitting on a 1-0 lead to earn three points, so be it.

"When players realise that they are not there for the taking, they start to scrape draws from games they would have lost; then they edge wins from sides that would have held them to a draw. Tactics are different between the Third and First Divisions... but the qualities needed to pull round from a tight spot are just the same."

And Greaves has a message for the unhappy Wolves fans: "Cheer us, not jeer us."

ONLY THE BEST FOR WOLVES

the thought of going on to the pitch.

"My job here mirrors my job at Oxford to an astonishing extent. Once again, I've got to make players believe that they are good enough to succeed.

Status

"When I walked into Oxford in December, 1980, we were going nowhere but the Fourth Division: when I left, we had lost ten matches out of 53; held our status and knocked First Division Brighton out of the F.A. Cup.

"At Wolves, as at Oxford, the job has to be done with the players who are here already. There is no money at Molineux to bring in new

"We've got to win; our position demands it. Every time that supporters 'get after' the players, it makes it just that much more difficult to find the confidence to produce winning football.

"No one needs to tell me that this is a club which has the potential to be one of the greatest in the game — but a successful club has to be a partnership. That is the relationship that we must have between supporters on the terraces and players on the pitch."

All his life, Greaves has been thriving on challenges.

Now he has to repair a shattered Wolves. And his first job is to heal the conflicts that threaten Second Division football for a club which has been out of the top level for just three seasons in the last half century.

GORDON Lee's job at Preston North End could not be more difficult. He has to rouse a sleeping giant.

"Every game between now and the end of the season is a Cup Final. If we raise our game to that sort of level we can stay in the Third Division, but it is not going to be easy and I'm not promising anything," says Lee.

"There are a lot of players with ability at Preston. It may sound a contradiction, but there is almost too much skill at the club. If we were in the Second Division I would fancy us for promotion. This Division is more about battling."

Lee is not only rebuilding a club left in turmoil following Tommy Docherty's sacking, he is rebuilding his own career after more than six months out of the game following his departure from Everton.

"I couldn't face the game for a while when I left Everton," says Lee.

"Now I feel as though I could

move mountains again. I can look in the mirror and feel satisfied with what I see.

"I'm 47, the same age as Bill Shankly when he joined Liverpool. I feel as though I have something to offer. I still want to be the best manager in England."

Lee is working without a contract at Preston — by his own choice.

"I don't need one," he says. "Preston have given me another

LEE CAN MOVE

MOUNTAINS NOW

start and I've got all my enthusiasm back.

"My first game in charge was at Chesterfield, who are going well at the top of the Division. We only took a coach load of supporters, but that tiny band gave me new heart.

"It was a horrible afternoon in early January, but they stood and roared us on right to the end. They wouldn't let the players leave the field after we'd forced a goalless draw. That's what the game is about, people like them.

"My aim now is to give them a lot more to shout about."

"I think we can do that."

13 TOP TROPHIES

RAY KENNEDY is the player who has won just about everything — "and I'm not satisfied by a long way yet," he promises Swansea City after his £150,000 transfer from Liverpool.

The Kennedy tally so far is: four League Championship medals from Liverpool and one from Arsenal plus an F.A. Cup winners medal in the 1971 Double year; a League Cup winners medal last season; three successful European Cup Finals; two winning UEFA Cup Finals; a Super Cup triumph — and, of course, 17 caps for England.

"If I win a Welsh Cup winners medal at Swansea, I'll have gone through the card," says Kennedy.

Ironically, the man to whom Kennedy owes so much is the manager who brought him to the Vetch Field — John Toshack.

"Liverpool signed him from Arsenal to take over from me at Anfield," admits Toshack who had been troubled with some serious injuries.

"In fact, at one stage I was on my way to Leicester but that deal fell through. Then I reclaimed my Liverpool spot from Ray who promptly started a new career in midfield."

...AND RAY WANTS EVEN MORE!

That was the switch which launched Kennedy as one of the biggest winners in the history of British football.

Old habits die hard and that was why Kennedy dropped several weeks of negotiation with hometown club Sunderland.

"Look at the respective positions in the First Division table," he invites. "Sunderland are in trouble ... while Swansea could be Champions."

"Under Tosh, The Swans have been a terrific boost to the First Division and I think that they are exactly the challenge that I need at this point in my career."

"I had some marvellous campaigns at Liverpool and no one was pushing me out. There were still two and a half years of my four year contract to run; I don't think that I would have started talking about my prospects there until the end of the season."

"But then Swansea came in out of the blue and I decided that this was exactly the change of direction that I wanted. I had been feeling stale at Anfield; the Vetch Field, with everything happening as it is there, looked perfect. And we proved we can live with the best when we beat Liverpool 2-0 recently."



Kennedy, now 30, hastens to add that the staleness was in his mental approach to football rather than his form, fitness or pace and Toshack firmly agrees.

"When a player like Ray becomes available at that kind of price, you owe it to your supporters to go in for him," he states.

'Ideal'

"He will give us a better balance on the left hand side of midfield. We have Dzemail Hadziabdic, the Yugoslav international at left-back, and, of course, Leighton James at the front. Ray should be the ideal man between them."

It is a line up of talent which excites Kennedy. "I signed because I know that I can be professionally, as well as personally, happy at the Vetch Field. It was hard on one hand to leave Liverpool; on the other, not much has changed."

It is easy to see what he means. As well as Toshack, assistant manager Phil Boersma was once

his partner as the central strike force in Liverpool's attack; coach Doug Livermore was another Anfield colleague of his early days at Liverpool while Colin Irwin, The Swans' key centre-half, played with him there last season.

Kennedy is the sixth Liverpool player to sign at the Vetch Field following Tommy Smith, Ian Callaghan, Alan Waddle, Boersma and Irwin, while there are currently four ex-Everton rivals in the Vetch squad — Dai Davies, Garry Stanley, Neil Robinson and Bob Latchford.

"By a coincidence, my first big representative match was against Wales: I partnered Malcolm Macdonald in an Under-23 international ... and 'Tosh' was on the other side," he recalls.

"Now my targets are all set to help Swansea win something."

Now Swansea possess the experience and finishing power of this intense competitor of over 400 First Division matches and more than 100 goals, he can prove a decisive factor in grafting an extra edge of menace to these already confident Swans.

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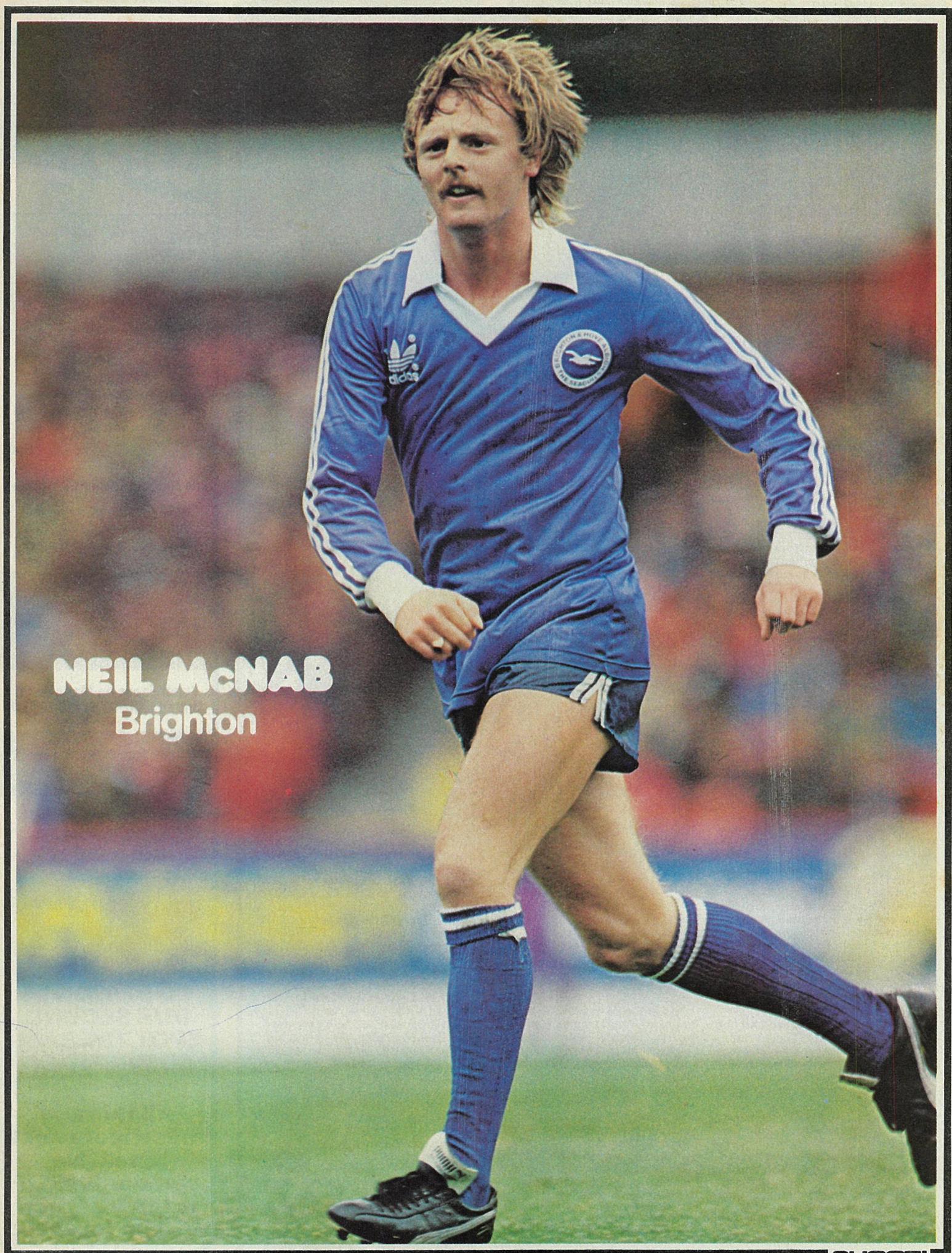
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